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TRAVEL LIKE THE STARS DO
SOME POPULAR CELEB GO-TO SPOTS {page 31}

D'OH!
HOMER GETS A VATICAN SHOUT-OUT {page 18}

TORONTO metro®
Wednesday, October 20, 2010
www.metronews.ca

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Fashion. Week

▶ A model walks the runway at the OR by Angela Chen Spring/Summer 2011 show at Heritage, as part of LG Fashion Week. For more coverage, see page 27.

GEORGE PIMENTEL/FOR METRO TORONTO

Looking to the future of fashion

Smoke 'em if you got 'em

- Province has already banned smoking in restaurants, in cars with kids and outlawed 'power walls' in stores
- 'Only so much a government can ... do': McGuinty

The Liberals are shelving a new report recommending more curbs on cigarettes, including non-smoking clauses in apartment leases, generic packaging and licensing of retailers.

In the report, Ontario's anti-smoking panel urged sweeping measures to reduce smoking. With cigarettes contributing to the deaths of 13,000 Ontarians annually and costing the health-care system $6 billion a year, Michael Perley, director of the Ontario Campaign for Action on Tobacco, said more must be done.

"It's time to change our approach," Perley said yesterday. He is one of 25 leading health experts on the blue-ribbon panel struck by McGuinty's government last year to design future anti-smoking strategies.

Among the 65 recommendations was a call to amend the Residential Tenancies Act so landlords could make "a non-smoking policy a material term of the lease" to protect tenants from neighbours' second-hand smoke.

But McGuinty, who faces re-election on Oct. 6, 2011 and has in the past been accused by opponents of trying to socially engineer behaviour, quickly stamped out any further anti-smoking laws.

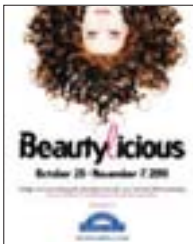
"I think we've gone as far as we're prepared to go right now," said the premier. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

convicted

Court hears of scope of Russell Williams's depravity {page 8}

Leafs getting groove back

They just needed an attitude adjustment: Proteau {page 51}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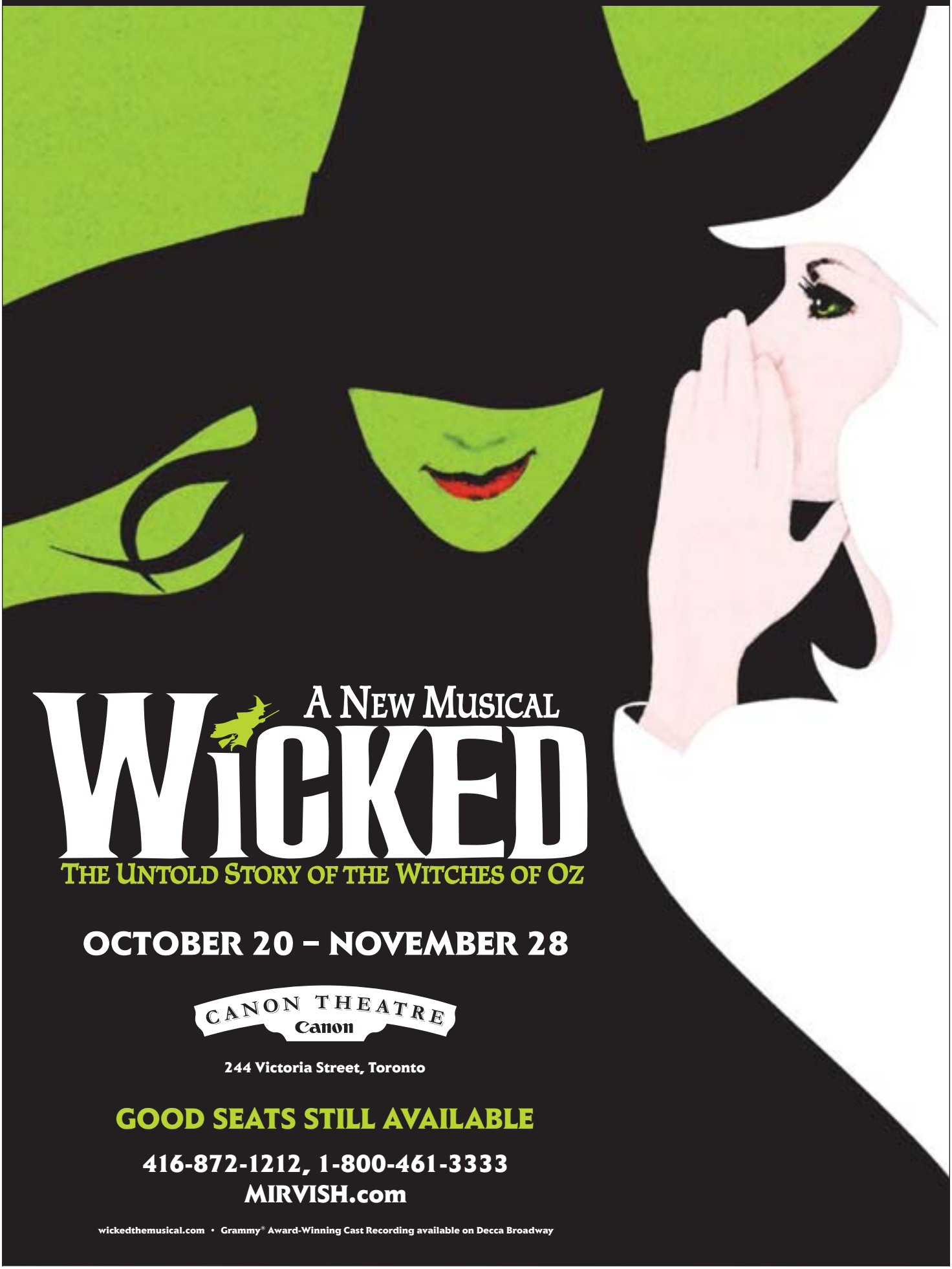

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Kawartha Lakes girl, 4, assaulted, police say

A 4-year-old girl suffered serious injuries after being assaulted and left in a field in Kawartha Lakes on Monday evening.

Police said the girl was taken from a public washroom in the Woodville and District Arena, located at 105 Union St., just after 6:30 p.m. She had been in the washroom by herself for several minutes when a family member tried to enter and found the door locked.

The family member alerted an arena employee who unlocked the door. The child was not found inside.

Police believe an unknown male suspect took the girl out of the washroom using a side exit.

She was later located in an open field next to the arena with assault injuries.

The child was taken to Ross Memorial Hospital and later transferred to Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children. THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

Better lunch for alleged biker boss

PRISON. An alleged biker boss will be getting more meat in his sandwiches during his drug trial this month. A deal has been struck to allow John Neal — who police say is the president of the Toronto Hells Angels — to eat healthier food while in custody. Neal, 60, had complained the standard prisoner lunch of cheese sandwiches and water didn't live up to the diet recommended by his doctor. The deal between his lawyer and Toronto police allows meals that meet the Canada Food Guide to be delivered to his cell from the courthouse cafeteria. THE CANADIAN PRESS

CUPE urges members to back Pantalone

Smitherman has said he would consider contracting out garbage collection and some bus routes

Ontario's biggest trade union is urging its Toronto members to get and stay behind Joe Pantalone, while a major construction union is breaking labour ranks to back rival George Smitherman.

The provincial wing of the Canadian Union of Public Employees, which has almost 100,000 members in Toronto, said yesterday that Pantalone is "the most committed to public services, has the most experience at getting City Council to work together and will not sell off public assets."

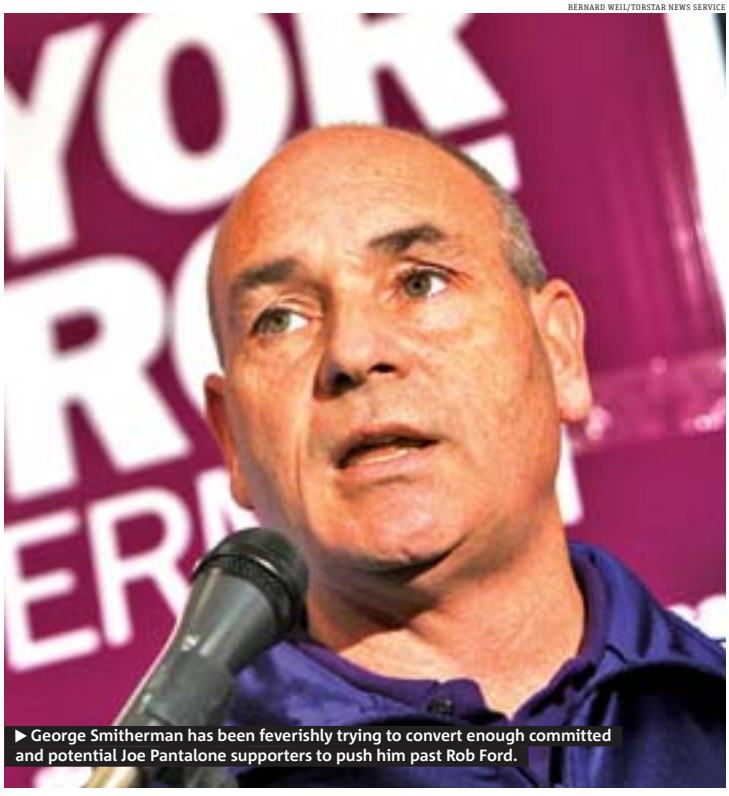
In a release, president Fred Hahn urged members to resist backing "second best" George Smitherman to help ensure arch-conservative Rob Ford is defeated in Monday's election. "I remind all Torontonians it is they, not the pundits, polls and newspapers, that will decide next Monday who becomes mayor," Hahn said. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

60,000
The Central Ontario Building Trades, representing about 60,000 construction workers in Toronto, is urging its members to support Smitherman, at least in part because he has the best chance of defeating Ford.

Locals

- **CUPE Local 416,** representing about 6,000 City of Toronto workers, announced its support for Pantalone earlier this month.
- **Local 79,** which does not participate in the provincial CUPE organization, last month gave its 24,000 members — mostly city office workers — criteria for choosing a candidate but did not explicitly endorse a candidate.

BERNARD WEIL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



▶ George Smitherman has been feverishly trying to convert enough committed and potential Joe Pantalone supporters to push him past Rob Ford.

1 news

News on the move

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How the Chile mine rescue set the gold standard for staging a disaster relief spectacle. More at metronews.ca/spindoctor

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AARON HARRIS/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

▶ A police officer stands near a burning cruiser on Queen Street West during G20 protests in Toronto in June.

Officials justify summit spending during hearing

Overtime, accommodation, transportation for 10,000 officers among items that ran up the bill: Organizer

Government officials say the G8 and G20 summits in June were a bargain at $1.3 billion.

The "overarching consideration" in putting together the summits was "finding economies of scale," chief organizer Peter McGovern told MPs at a committee hearing yesterday.

The $930 million that was earmarked for security was necessary to assure the world that the summits would go off without a hitch, said former spy chief Ward Elcock, who oversaw security at the meetings.

"In terms of putting in place adequate security for a meeting of virtually all the senior government leaders for most of the world, if you don't provide security for it, that's a very tempting soft target," Elcock told MPs.

The full $930 million will probably not all be spent, Elcock said, adding that all the bills have not yet been finalized.

250

Since the G8 and G20 were held just 250 kilometres apart — in Huntsville, Ont., and Toronto — Ottawa was able to spend efficiently by using the same contractors and planners for both events, chief organizer Peter McGovern argued.

By holding the G8 at a resort in rural Huntsville, Ont., the government had to pay high fixed costs to set up the infrastructure, temporary accommodation, telecommunications and transportation services the summit needed, Elcock said.

And by holding two summits at different sites, authorities had to secure hundreds of kilometres of highway, as well as make sure alternative transportation was available in case of bad weather, he said.

Opposition members were not buying it.

New Democrat MP Pat Martin said the county is still reeling at the "irresponsible and reckless spending" at a time when government budgets are constrained. He pointed to government funding for a fake lake at the media centre, as well as millions spent on paving roads and beautifying towns in the Muskokas where no leader ever set foot.

Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff accused the government of flagrant overspending on summits that produced little foreign policy. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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News in brief

Grits back off on Double Down review

KFC. The arrival of KFC's 540-calorie Double Down sandwich caught the attention of the Ontario government yesterday, which first said it may review the sale of the sodium-laden, breadless concoction, but then quickly backtracked.

Liberals weren't saying why Health Promotion Minister Margarett Best originally said it was something the government could investigate, only to claim a few hours later in a statement that there were no plans to review the availability of any food products in Ontario. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Power bar giveaway

HYDRO. Toronto Hydro will give away 50,000 pre-programmed power bars this month during its Beat the Peak promotion.

The first 500 Toronto Hydro time-of-use customers are eligible to receive a free pre-programmed power bar when they present their 2010 August/September bill at Toronto-area Wal-Mart Canada and Sears stores or select Canadian Tire and Staples stores on Oct. 23, 24 , 30 and 31, while supplies last.

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METRO

Dealing with allergies

Air Canada told to create buffer zones for passengers with nut allergies.
Scan code to read the story.

'I'm proud I had a part to play'

- Terry James was among 10 females in 1980 police recruitment class
- She walked the beat, did undercover work, worked on drug squad

RICK EGLINTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

▶ Terry James, the first black female officer given an investigative role with the Toronto police.

Terry James, now 55, got some very strange looks 30 years ago when she tugged on a Toronto police uniform.

Nobody had seen a black woman before walking the beat.

"People honked their horns at me, people were doing double takes," James recalls with a smile.

Inside the police service, where males dominated every role, she had another obstacle: Convincing her peers and supervisors that she was up for the job.

She says she didn't hear racial slurs "unless it was behind my back."

Yet, this native of Grenada allows there were walls to break down. And over time she did.

James retired as a detective in court services at the end of September, marking the end of an era. She was the first black female member of the police service given an investigative role.

A few black females were hired in the 1960s but given smaller roles in what was then a women's bureau, or traffic or the youth bureau. And none certainly lasted as long or blazed the trail that James did over 30 years.

Earlier in her career, James was instrumental in recruiting visible minorities to the force, including gay and lesbian officers.

She was also the founding member of the Association of Black Law Enforcers, which is an advocacy group, and she conceived the idea for a Black History Month event at the Toronto Police Service in 1994.

The Toronto service of 5,747 uniformed officers draws 20 per cent of its members from minority groups, and 18 per cent of officers are now female.

"I'm proud I had a part to play in changing the face of the police service," James says.

The current highest ranking black woman officer is Sonia Thomas, who is a staff sergeant and is in line to be an inspector.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Why did the colonel do it?

Warning: Graphic details may disturb some readers

Col. Russell Williams admitted he developed a fetish for stealing women's underwear in his 20s or 30s but said he's not sure what triggered it, court heard yesterday.

Williams, during his confession to police, insisted he didn't act on those urges until 2007, when he began breaking into homes and photographing himself wearing stolen lingerie while masturbating.

Disturbing and graphic evidence presented in a Belleville, Ont., court over the past two days documents the escalation of that fetish, from panty raids to sexual assault and murder.

Williams, 47, pleaded guilty Monday to two counts of first-degree murder, two sexual assaults and 82 break and enters. He was formally convicted yesterday on all charges.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Cpl. Marie-France Comeau

THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Jessica Lloyd

Video of Williams's confession is expected to be shown in court today.

He was a rising star in the military before being charged in February in the killings of Jessica Lloyd and Cpl. Marie-France Comeau.

Court heard earlier yesterday that Lloyd complied with every perverted command Williams made during her rape and captivity, but he killed her anyway.

At one point Lloyd makes a simple request of her captor: "If I die, will you make sure to let my mom know that I love her?"

That detail, read aloud in court, left many in the room sobbing loudly.

Williams faces life in prison with no chance of parole for 25 years.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Mediator in reno project donated money to Tories

Controversial Parliament Hill renovation contract under scrutiny Consultant says he did nothing wrong

A consultant hired by the federal government to smooth out disagreements in a controversial Parliament Hill renovation donated money to attend a Conservative fundraiser, The Canadian Press has learned.

Howie Clavier says he did nothing wrong by paying $500 to attend the fundraiser put on by a contractor because he saw it as a good opportunity to network with people involved in the West Block project.

But some are questioning whether an impartial mediator and facilitator should be mixing government business with party politics.

ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Natural Resources Minister Christian Paradis

The opposition is already calling for the resignation of Natural Resources Minister Christian Paradis for his involvement in the project and the fundraiser, raising the prospect that the Tories took kickbacks in return for handing out government contracts. Public Works brought in Clavier to run several "partnering sessions" for the companies involved in the renovation contract, which is being probed by the RCMP and a parliamentary committee.

The department gave Resolution Alliance Inc., where Clavier works, a one-year contract for $26,000 in August 2008. The work is summarized on a proactive disclosure website as "engineering consultants — construction."

Clavier said he ran one full-day and two half-day partnering sessions. He also attended meetings at the construction site once a month. THE CANADIAN PRESS

VAL CHIRKOV

Enjoying the Stillness

Today's photo of the day is by Canadian Val Chirkov and was submitted in the Favourite Spot category. The photo is titled Stillness. Enter your photos today and view more pictures at metrophotochallenge.ca.

metro PHOTO CHALLENGE

Man killed in front of parents

Hamilton police have arrested one man and are searching for another following the stabbing death of a man at his parents' house. Jason Green, 39, died after being stabbed in front of his horrified parents in the city's east end. Joshua James Milford, 19, is charged with first-degree murder. Police are still looking for Bradley Lionel Mark, 28, described as "very dangerous." THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Chechen parliament attacked

Scene of horror as six killed, more than a dozen injured in raid

Islamic militants tried to blow up Chechnya's parliament yesterday, leaving six people dead and 17 injured in a brazen attack that defied the Kremlin-backed government's claims it had stabilized the volatile region.

In a clear challenge to the Kremlin, the raid in Chechnya's provincial capital occurred just as Russia's interior minister was visiting the city. The three attackers drove to the tightly-guarded parliament headquarters and managed to get inside. One suicide attacker blew himself up at the doors and another two ran into the building shouting "Allahu akbar!" (God is great) in Arabic — as they opened fire on the people inside, said Chechen police spokesman Ramzan Bekkhoyev.

The regional prosecutor's office said the remaining two attackers also blew themselves up after exchanging fire with police, while other officials said they were killed in a gunbattle. The raid left two police officers and a government employee dead and 17 others injured.

Stains of blood, body fragments and a decapitated corpse were still scattered outside Parliament hours after the attack as police and special forces backed by armoured vehicles patrolled the area.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Reaction

- Chechnya's Moscow-backed regional president, Ramzan Kadyrov, sought to downplay the attack, saying the assailants were quickly killed. Russia's Prime Minister Vladimir Putin and President Dmitry Medvedev called to offer assistance.
- The U.S. condemned the attack and offered condolences to the families of the dead and wounded.

Slater. Guilty plea

▶ Steven Slater speaks to the media outside a New York courthouse yesterday.

SETH WENIG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Counselling for flight attendant

The former flight attendant whose job-quitting meltdown landed him in court pleaded guilty to attempted criminal mischief and will undergo at least a year of counselling and substance-abuse treatment.

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BOB EDME/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Young demonstrators shout slogans at a workers protest in Bordeaux, France yesterday.

French protests turn violent

A bill that would change France's retirement age from 60 to 62 is expected to pass in the Senate this week

Masked youths clashed with police and set fires in cities across France yesterday as protests against a proposed hike in the retirement age took an increasingly radical turn. Hundreds of flights were cancelled, long lines formed at gas stations and train service in many regions was cut in half.

In Paris, police estimated a crowd of 60,000 marched toward the gilded-domed Invalides.

At a high school in the Paris suburb of Nanterre, a few hundred youths started throwing stones from a bridge at nearly as many police, who responded with tear gas and barricaded the area.

At the Place de la Republique in Paris, young people pelted riot police with projectiles, while youth in the central city of Lyon torched garbage cans and cars as police riposted with clouds of tear gas.

Up to half of flights out of Paris' Orly airport were scrapped, and 30 per cent of flights out of other French airports were cancelled, an official said.

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Crime agenda to strain jails: Commissioner

NDP critic Don Davies says it will cost billions of dollars to implement a small portion of the legislation

The head of Canada's corrections system says he will have to hire thousands more staff, as well as renovate and expand existing prisons to handle the growing inmate population that will be the result of the Conservatives' crime legislation.

"The primary impact of the legislation will be a significant and sustained increase to the federal offender population over time," said Don Head, commissioner of Correctional Service Canada. "This will be particularly evident in the short to medium-term."

Head said the crime legislation will mean an extra 4,478 people in federal prisons across the country over the next three years, on top of growth in prison population that would normally be expected.

$2 billion
The commissioner of Correctional Service Canada says he'll need to spend about $2 billion to deal with the influx of prisoners coming from the Conservatives' law-and-order agenda.

Plus, he says he'll have to spend on programs that help prisoners cope, since the surge will require far more double-bunking — a practice that experts say often incites violence and discontent.

Head warned that federal prisons are increasingly becoming homes for the mentally ill, and his personnel are struggling to handle the new dynamic.

"Unfortunately we have become the default mental-health system in the country," he said.

Head estimates he'll need to spend $2-billion, which is lower than costs projected by the Parliamentary Budget Officer, but far higher than costs initially projected by federal ministers.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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China. Economy

▶ A Chinese man poses for photos in front of Tiananmen Gate in Beijing yesterday.

NG HAN GUAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Higher rates for lower inflation

China raised its key lending rate yesterday for the first time since emerging from the global crisis as Beijing tries to cool inflation and guide rapid growth to a more sustainable level.

Rate held at 1% as outlook dims

Economy too feeble to handle hike: Central bank

The Bank of Canada warned yesterday the economy is not performing as well as it should and could take more than two years before it returns to full capacity.

The outlook accompanying the bank's announcement that it will hold its policy interest rate at one per cent at least until December, and likely longer, sheds fresh light on what is in store for Canadians as the world struggles to climb out of a big recessionary hole.

The good news is that bank governor Mark Carney still sees no double-dip slump in the horizon, but that's as good as it gets.

Carney, who until yesterday had been among the economy's biggest boosters, now sees a landscape of uncertainty.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada's housing market has cooled, but a new real-estate report points to some encouraging signs. Scan code for story.

Market moment

PRICES AS OF 5 P.M. YESTERDAY

DOLLAR	TSX
– 1.7¢ (96.91¢ US)	– 97.46 (12,570.55)

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Watchdog finds Google not so street smart

Privacy boss says the search engine broke the law by collecting personal data while building Street View

Canada's privacy commissioner Jennifer Stoddart says Google broke privacy laws when it accidentally collected personal information from unsecured wireless networks while putting together its Street View mapping service.

An investigation by Stoddart's office found complete emails, addresses, usernames and passwords. Thousands of Canadians were likely affected, Stoddart said.

According to the investigation, the code an engineer had written to map wireless Internet signals also allowed for the capture of communications over unencrypted networks, but he never submitted it for review to Google's lawyers so no one was aware of the potential for problems.

In its response to Stoddart's findings, the company said it had no intention to use the data and would keep it safe until all investigations are complete, then delete it.

On Monday, Spanish data regulators announced they were filing a lawsuit against Google for the Wi-Fi mapping incident and seeking millions in fines.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Coke's Q3 income up

Coca-Cola Co.'s third-quarter net income rose 8.4 per cent as it sold more of its soft drinks and juices around the world and U.S. sales extended their rebound.

The numbers are encouraging after four years of declines.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bombardier splurges

Bombardier plans to spend more than $1 billion to develop two new luxury business jets, more than double what some in the industry had expected.

A company president said the high cost reflects a new transonic wing and a new engine.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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THERE REALLY SHOULD BE AN APP FOR THAT

Just sayin'

PAUL SULLIVAN

It's now an article of faith — after numerous studies prove it to be so — that texting, talking and even listening on your cellphone while driving is even more dangerous than driving while drunk.

That, of course, doesn't prevent people from texting, talking or listening while driving, even when it's illegal: OMG! I'm gonna crash. It's enough to make you get out and walk. But lately it occurs to me that is no solution. Walking has become just as dangerous as driving as the streets are populated by the same idiots — distracted drivers who somehow manage to park their cars without incident.

Everywhere you go, and I mean everywhere, the Text Menace is right in front of you, brow furrowed, thumbs going a mile a minute, jacked into headphones, completely oblivious to what's going on around them — or in front of them.

How many times today were you forced to swerve to avoid some vision in Ugg boots who couldn't wait to tell her BFF that she's just across the street, so Wait for Me!

And if you think that's bad, did you know you can get an iPhone app called Type and Walk which makes it possible for you to, well, type and walk at the same time without running into anything or anyone. That means you never have to look up. Or say you're sorry. Or thank-you. Or hello, or any of that other, like, outmoded human interaction stuff.

"Everywhere you go, and I mean everywhere, the Text Menace is right in front of you ..."

I guess Type and Walk is a good thing, especially if you have a tendency to walk off the curb into an oncoming bus, but would it not be simple just to turn your phone off for the three minutes it takes to get from here to there?

I think it's time to consider a ban on cellphones altogether. In case you haven't noticed, "smart" phone zombies are everywhere, holding the line up at Tim Hortons as they talk to their friends while trying to select 30 different Timbits. Or they're in the elevator telling people they're in the elevator, as in: "I'm in the elevator." Or in a stall in a public washroom.

Some people don't think it's a good idea to ban cellphones, even if you're heading down the freeway 40 kilometres over the limit. Rush Limbaugh, for example, thinks the whole idea is a commie plot: "Liberalism, socialism, communism is responsible for more deaths than cellphones could ever hope to be." But consider the source. I would bet listening to Rush Limbaugh lose his mind in public is more dangerous than texting and drinking combined. LOL.

Read more of Paul Sullivan's columns at metronews.ca/justsaying

Cartoon

MICHAEL DE ADDER

Postering is a real issue

Letters & Tweets

Re: Poster boy for war on postering

TORONTO. Kudos to Carolyn Morris and her article on James Russell and his neighbourhood association who take it upon themselves to rid their neighbourhood of unsightly commercial posters.

Since moving to Toronto over 20 years ago, I've been outraged that posterers feel they own anything that doesn't move (often even including trees) as fair game for a poster or two.

Over a decade ago the Supreme Court gave municipalities the right to limit, but not outlaw postering. While most cities have bylaws, Toronto doesn't.

Perhaps our mayoralty candidates should take a page from the article and tackle this issue head-on knowing how residents feel. Instead, we hear about "making Toronto inclusive for all" and "stopping the gravy train at city hall."

How about addressing REAL issues that people deal with every day? A good start would be a promise to rid our city landscape of the layers of posters that make our city unattractive.

KEN WILSON, TORONTO

Parade of posters

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Metro Minute at a celebration of Cuba

Yes, Toronto, fall has arrived with its icy fingers.

So, for a vicarious dose of vitamin D, slide into the University of Toronto's Robarts library tonight at 7. Amidst the stacks you will find a cultural celebration of Cuba that will evoke memories of warm air, silky sand and those delicious ultra violet rays.

Brian Gordon Sinclair will perform his solo theatrical show, Hemingway's HOT Havana, followed by a series of live poetry readings.

But it's not just sunshine and seascapes. The free event, put on by the Toronto Forum on Cuba, is also meant to encourage dialogue about the island's complex political situation. **JORDANA DIVON**

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE PHOTO

▶ The Toronto Forum on Cuba's free event at Robarts library tonight is not just about sunshine and seascapes.

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2 scene

Gemini Awards

It'll be a Glee-ful celebration at the Gemini Awards next month.

Cory Monteith, who stars in the hit TV series, has been announced as host of the Geminis, which celebrate the best in Canadian television. The show takes place in Toronto on Nov. 13.

The cop show Flashpoint is among the main contenders at the event, with 15 nominations.

Monteith, who plays Finn Hudson on Glee, was born in Calgary and raised in Vancouver.

Tough-talking Gone Baby Gone actress Jill Quigg charged in Mass. break-in.

SUBMITTED

▶ Religious newspaper claims The Simpsons is one of the few TV programs for children in which the Christian faith and the question of God are recurring themes.

Homer a Catholic

The Simpsons' producer says the television program clearly shows Homer is not Catholic
It's the latest example of the Vatican's efforts to be more relevant to younger generations

The Vatican newspaper has declared that Homer Simpson is part of the Pope's flock — a claim that leaves The Simpsons TV producer baffled.

"Few people know it and he does everything to hide it but it is true: Homer J. Simpson is Catholic," L'Osservatore Romano wrote in its weekend edition.

Last December, the newspaper praised the show on its 20th anniversary for its philosophical leanings and irreverent take on religion.

The weekend story was the latest example of the Vatican paper's efforts to be more relevant in the past few years, and follows stories lauding Harry Potter and praising the Beatles.

The paper quoted an analysis by a Jesuit priest, the Rev. Francesco Occhetta, discussing Homer and Bart's conversion in a 2005 episode after meeting with a sympathetic priest, Father Sean.

"My first reaction is shock and awe, and I guess it makes up for me not going to church for 20 years."
AL JEAN, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

Osservatore says the analysis shows that behind the TV program's jokes are themes "linked to the sense and quality of life."

"The Simpsons' remain among the few programs for children in which the Christian faith, religion and the question of God are recurring themes," it said. "The family recites prayers together before meals and, in its own way, believes in heaven."

While noting that The Simpsons often takes jabs at religious figures, it said parents should not be afraid to let their children watch "the adventures of the little guys in yellow."

But the show's producer told Entertainment Weekly the Vatican may have gone a step too far in its analysis of the satire, noting that Homer and Bart only consider converting in the 2005 episode.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Michaels gets back on track with new show

Despite dealing with a host of medical problems, Poison frontman stars in reality show, records album

GETTY IMAGES

Bret Michaels new series is called Life As I Know It.

For a guy who is probably best-known for informing the world that every rose has its thorn, Bret Michaels certainly had a prickly year.

In the span of a few months this spring, the Poison frontman and reality-show fixture was hit with an emergency appendectomy, a near-fatal brain hemorrhage and a "warning" stroke, which led doctors to discover a hole in his heart.

On the plus side, though, is his new reality show, Life As I Know It, and new album, Custom Built — as well as his win on Celebrity Apprentice.

"The last year's been at complete opposite ends of the spectrum," Michaels says.

The first episode of Life delved deeply into Michaels' health problems and his desire to get back on tour. He's not shy about any of it. "It's a tough thing to talk about, but ... I'm a pretty candid person. I keep all my cards on the table," he says.

His family is also showing their hand. Michaels' two daughters and their mother — on-again, off-again girlfriend, Kristi — are featured in Life.

"They've handled it well," he says. "We'll sit down and talk about it: 'Here's the reality of your reality. If you want to film some stuff, great. If it's not what you're into that day, you can't force it.'"

Michaels says he and his girlfriend "are making an effort." That means if there is another season of Rock of Love, the format — multiple women competing for his affection — will change. He says he's working on something called Rock of Love Boat.

"The catch line is: What if a rock star could save your relationship?" he says. "(Couples will get) awful advice from me."

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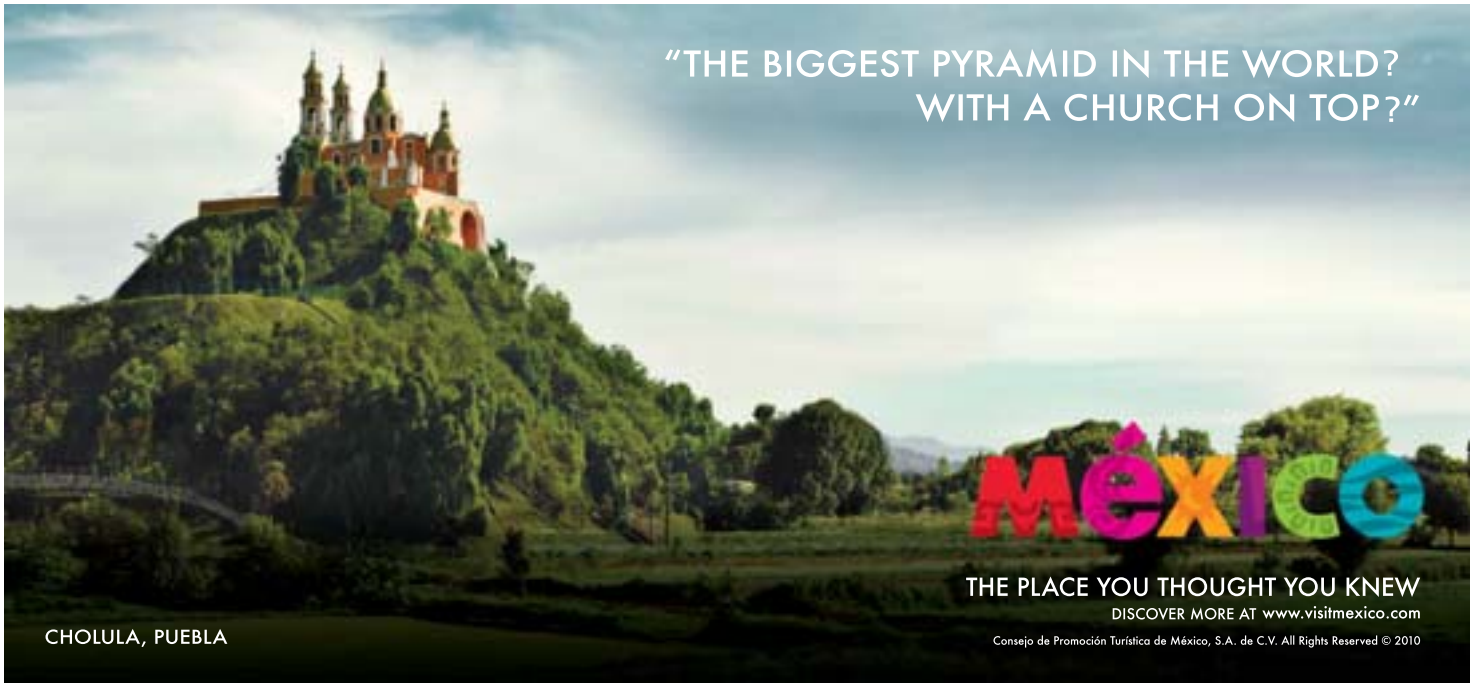

TV legend returns to join the Working Class

Ed Asner to play crotchety neighbour in first scripted CMT sitcom

Television veteran Ed Asner is coming back to series TV with the first scripted sitcom for CMT.

On the new show, Working Class, Asner will co-star as the crusty but lovable neighbour to the blue-collar single mom played by series star Melissa Peterman.

The network announced Monday that the 12-episode multi-camera comedy will premiere in January on CMT.

Asner, who turns 81 next month, is beloved for his signature role as cranky journalist Lou Grant. His return to TV follows recent successes for two fellow castmates from the legendary Mary Tyler Moore Show: Betty White on TV Land's Hot in Cleveland and Cloris Leachman on Fox's Raising Hope.

Peterman has appeared on the sitcom Reba and hosts CMT's The Singing Bee. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SUBMITTED

▶ Actor Ed Asner

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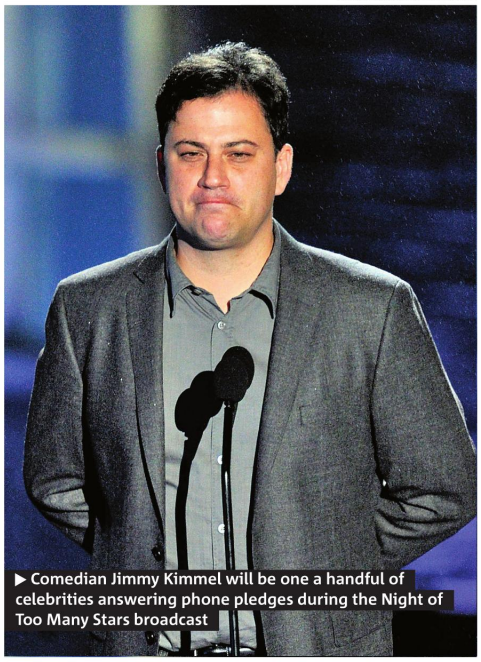
MICHAEL CAULFIELD/GETTY IMAGES



▶ Comedian Jimmy Kimmel will be one a handful of celebrities answering phone pledges during the Night of Too Many Stars broadcast

When Too Many is just the right amount

Benefit for autism backed by comedian Jon Stewart among others

Comedy Central hopes it's got the winning number for Night of Too Many Stars: An Overbooked Concert for Autism Education.

The network's third such biennial benefit originates from two coasts and will be prerecorded as well as live.

Airing Thursday at 9 p.m. EDT, the broadcast will consist of a gala concert taped earlier this month at New York's Beacon Theatre, along with live cut-ins from Los Angeles, where a star-studded phone bank will receive viewers' contributions during the show.

Rob Corddry, Bryan Cranston, Jimmy Kimmel, Jim Parsons, Sofia Vergara and Rainn Wilson are among the celebrities booked to take calls in Los Angeles from donors. Jon Stewart will be hosting.

Meanwhile, the New York shindig will boast names such as Steve Carell, Stephen Colbert, Tina Fey, Sarah Silverman, Jimmy Fallon, Tracy Morgan, Joel McHale, Jim Gaffigan, John Oliver, Ricky Gervais, Lewis Black, Chris Rock and Triumph the Insult Comic Dog. Surely way too many!

Hosting this portion, too, of the overbooked affair: Who else but Jon Stewart?

Night of Too Many Stars comes packed with laughs, of course. But its underlying purpose is no joke, as Stewart wastes no time reminding everyone.

After greeting the audience with a bedbug joke, he turns serious, stating that one of every 110 kids is diagnosed as autistic.

"Tonight isn't about curing autism or fighting it," he says. "Tonight is about helping people that live with it now."

The event arose from the difficulty Robert Smigel had in finding his son Daniel, who has autism, the right educational resources. He and Daniel's mother started their own school a few years ago.

Smigel, perhaps best known for his wisecracking canine hand puppet, Triumph, is held in great affection among the comic mafia. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

My TD Points covered my stay at a ski resort (even my ski lessons).

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Two more axed from Battle of The Blades

Violetta Afanasieve and P.J. Stock have been eliminated from the Battle of the Blades.

Katia Gordeeva and Valeri Bure were in the bottom two but will remain for another week.

The winning pair earns $100,000 for the charity of their choice.

Battle of the Blades airs live performance shows Sundays and live results shows Mondays on CBC-TV.

The six pairs returning to compete next Sunday are: Shae-Lynn Bourne and Patrice Brisebois, Isabelle Brasseur and Todd Warriner, Gordeeva and Bure, Kyoko Ina and Kelly Chase, Jamie Sale and Theo Fleury THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBC gives green light to three shows

NBC is giving three freshmen series, including The Event, a full-season pickup.

Besides the much-hyped thriller The Event, the network gave a vote of confidence Monday to Law & Order: Los Angeles and the sitcom Outsourced.

None of the series has posted stellar ratings in a season in which new shows have struggled to attract viewers.

But NBC noted that The Event and the Los Angeles-set Law & Order have improved ratings in their time slots, while Outsourced is doing well with advertiser-favoured young adult viewers. The network finished in the fourth spot last season. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TV picks

Save the very last Dance

REALITY It's the final performance episode on So You Think You Can Dance Canada before Sunday's season finale. Four hopefuls are vying for the coveted title. (CTV)
CANADIAN PRESS

Howie helps salute stars

AWARDS Howie Mandel hosts the Canada's Walk of Fame special in Toronto tonight, honouring some of Canada's biggest and brightest. This year's inductees include singer-songwriter Nelly Furtado, actor Eric McCormack, David Clayton-Thomas and acclaimed author Farley Mowat (Global)
CANADIAN PRESS

A Gwar survival guide

If you're up for a night of fake bile and body parts, here are a few tips for making the most of a Gwar gig

KEITH CARMAN
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

"The best way to survive one of our shows is probably to just not go," warns Oderus Urungus, frontthing for heavy metal space mutants Gwar, the self-proclaimed, "most titanic, apocalyptic, loudest, smelliest and disgusting rock 'n' roll band in history."

For the uninitiated, a Gwar gig is something unto itself. The quintet sports rubber monster costumes and wields foam swords, rocking out whilst soaking audiences in fake blood, bile and body parts culled from various pop/political effigies desecrated via a number of disgusting means such as flaying.

Moreover, Gwar prides itself on 25 years and 12 albums — the latest dubbed Bloody Pit Of Horror (Metal Blade) — while fans are protectively ravenous freaks.

Zombie Walk

Can't make the show but dying to see Urungus?

- **Catch him** at the Toronto Zombie Walk where he's been crowned Honorary Grand Marshall.
- **The walk** takes place on Saturday prior to Gwar's show, starting from Trinity-Bellwoods Park at 3 p.m.

Intrigued but intimidated? Follow this simple guide to surviving these disgusting but entirely comedic and tongue-in-cheek spectacles.

What To Wear

It all depends on your desired outcome. Want to be a target for mayhem? Wear something crisply white and head for centre stage. With their endless dousing of carnage, you're sure to come out making Regan MacNeil from The Exorcist look like the "after" side of a detergent commercial.

What To Bring

A healthy sense of humour (political incorrectness is a plus for reasons we can't divulge), a strong stomach and a change of clothes. And earplugs.

What Not To Say

How many times you've seen them. At least not to the band, as Urungus takes it as an affront, thinking the band kills the entire crowd nightly.

When fans claim attending multiple shows he cries, "How the hell did that happen? I thought we killed everybody."

AP PHOTO

▶ Gwar's latest album is Bloody Pit of Horror.

Alternately, avoid comparing Gwar to other costumed rock bands (Lordi, Mushroomhead or even KISS) to fans. That might get you impaled for real.

What To Do

Again, it hinges on your intended experience. Step up front for an interactive encounter including stage diving, moshing, curse-laden taunting from Urungus and refreshing gore sprayed constantly.

For the voyeur, stay well back and enjoy the massacre of various papier-mâché creations.

Finally, Urungus advises that the best course of action at a Gwar gig "is to hide underneath the corpses of your dead friends."

Show listings

- **Halifax:** Oct. 20, The New Palace
- **Toronto:** Oct. 23, Opera House
- **Vancouver:** Nov. 29, Commodore Ballroom
- **Edmonton:** Dec. 1, Edmonton Events Centre
- **Calgary:** Dec. 2, MacEwan Hall Ballroom

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New record in works

Avett Brothers vow to stay on their toes as album takes shape

GETTY IMAGES

▶ The Avett Brothers

The Avett Brothers' breakthrough album, I and Love and You, came out on Sept. 29, 2009, exactly one year before our interview with singer and multi-instrumentalist Scott Avett.

So what's the band doing to celebrate the anniversary?

"I guess," says Avett, upon quick reflection, "making another record, right?"

The band is not quite ready for the studio though. They just released an in-concert collection called "Live, Volume 3" last week, which clearly demonstrates how much growth can happen on the stage for this band.

The songs from their 2009 album have matured especially well thanks to their year on the road. And the band — which also includes Scott's brother Seth on vocals, guitar and piano as well as bassist and singer Bob Crawford — agrees that they like to know how a song works in the live setting before they commit it to disc.

"We've got a ton of songs that we'd love to record, but I think there's a lot to be said for being content and figuring out how to sit back and let those songs become what they will and develop naturally," he says.

"They start to breathe and nuances happen. Great accidents happen, and the songs really dictate what they'll become. You've just got to play them."

I and Love and You was produced by Rick Rubin and not entirely road-tested when they went into record with him. Avett says that this really worked for the album, but they want to do the next one differently.

"I and Love and You was a big learning experience and a big change for us in the way we recorded it. We gave up some control intentionally, and we were proud to do so," he says..

"We wanted to step out of our comfort zone, and we did. And we're kind of coming back to it, to take chances on stage — and bringing things to the stage that you don't really know is how you get to develop them." METRO

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GETTY IMAGES

▶ Ryan Bingham

Singer not Weary Kind

Bingham claims new album inspired by cars, not Crazy Heart character

Ryan Bingham's latest album, Junky Star, seems inspired by Jeff Bridges' Crazy Heart character Bad Blake, an alcoholic former country music superstar on his way down and out.

Not so, says Bingham, the 29-year-old singer-songwriter responsible for the film's Golden Globe and Oscar-winning song, The Weary Kind.

"I was thinking of when you're looking through a junkyard and among all the trashed cars you find a really special cool car. But I like to leave it vague and open to interpretation," he explains.

Junky Star does have a definable link to Crazy Heart, though.

The film's soundtrack producer, the 10-time Grammy-winning T-Bone Burnett, who co-wrote The Weary Kind, helmed this set of bristling barroom rock and aching raw ballads.

Even so, it was business as usual for Bingham and his band, Dead Horses.

"He didn't tell us to do anything. He just got us all in the studio with all these amazing guitars and cool old amps and we played around, trying different guitar sounds."

"We tracked the whole record in three days. I don't want to say it was easy, but it was that smooth."

Like Bad Blake, Ryan Bingham and the Dead Horses' music is more outlaw country than mainstream Nashville pop.

The more revved-up songs of Junky Star sit easily with the likes of the rockabilly-based tunes of early Kings of Leon, before the stylists came on board and cut into their hick charm.

."I could see that," agrees Bingham, sounding more polite than convinced.

Then there's his raspy voice, which is as ragged and emphatic as Tom Waits. "I'd be nothing but honored to be mentioned alongside Tom Waits," he says humbly. "He's amazing." METRO

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Lesson learned

Whatever you Like singer tells radio station he's through with crime as judge orders him off to prison

SUBMITTED

▶ Rapper T.I.

Rapper T.I. says he's learned his final lesson after a federal judge ordered him back to prison for 11 months.

A federal judge in Atlanta ruled last week that the Grammy-winning rap artist, whose real name is Clifford Harris Jr., must return to prison for violating the terms of his supervised release on federal weapons charges. He was arrested in California last month on suspicion of drug possession.

T.I. told radio station V103-FM in Atlanta on Monday that he's learned by trial and error after each arrest and has learned his final lesson.

T.I. gave the interview to V103 alongside a 24-year-old man who had recently threatened to kill himself by leaping from a downtown building.

Police said the man agreed to come down if he could meet with T.I.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHRIS PIZZELLO/AP PHOTO

▶ Hip-hop artist Kanye West arrives for a screening of Runaway, a short film he directed that will accompany his forthcoming album, My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy, on Monday in Los Angeles.

West unveils Runaway film

Producer-turned-rapper hints at subject of suicide in recent song, Power That song's remix is among 10 tunes West has released for free through his website He plans on recording a new album with Jay-Z

Kanye West told an audience at a screening of his film, Runaway, that he thought about killing himself, but now feels a responsibility to make a meaningful contribution to pop culture and art.

Describing himself as a pop icon and "soldier for culture," West told the crowd "there were times that I contemplated suicide." However, he said, "I will not give up on life again."

West, who didn't say when he had considered suicide, is credited as director of the abstract 35-minute film, which features portions of nine new West songs, boldly colourful visuals and off-kilter camera angles.

The mostly dialogue-free piece, set to premiere this weekend on MTV, VH1 and BET, will accompany West's upcoming album, My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy, which will be released Nov. 22.

After a prelude featuring narration from rapper Nicki Minaj, West's character, Griffin, is seen driving a black MTX Tatra supercar down a country road. Lying next to a hole in the pavement is a phoenix fallen to Earth, played by model Selita Ebanks in pink, grey and brown feathers.

Playing over those visuals are West's next single, All of the Lights, which he said features Elton John on piano and an all-star chorus including Alicia Keys, Rihanna, Fergie and John Legend.

When the tune ended, there was applause from both the on-screen and live audience. In attendance were Morgan Spurlock, Ryan Phillippe, Pete Wentz and others in the entertainment industry.

The 33-year-old West told them that after a "long, hard year," he'd found his "creative sweet spot" by thinking like a five-year-old.

Besides his mother Donda West's death in 2007, West said he'd also lost three other parental figures in the last three years.

"Everything has been taken away from me," he said. "I'm so not ... scared."

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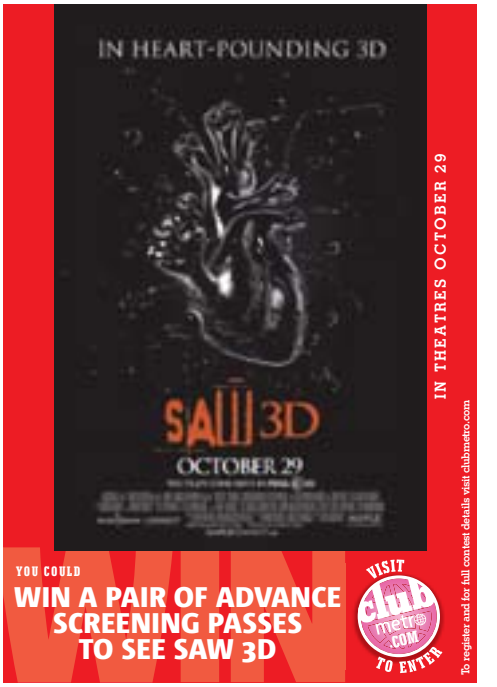

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A Gibson cameo for Hangover 2

Mel Gibson will make a cameo in The Hangover 2 as a tattoo artist.

Gibson's role, which was first reported by the New York Post, was confirmed Tuesday by a person close to the production, who requested anonymity because he wasn't authorized to comment publicly on the matter. The film, a sequel to the 2009 hit comedy The Hangover, is beginning production, with a release scheduled for May 2011.

Warner Bros., which is distributing the film, declined to comment.

Gibson might be hoping some comedy improves his tarnished reputation: a memorable appearance in the first Hangover film helped rehabilitate Mike Tyson's image.

Authorities are investigating claims by Gibson's ex-girlfriend Oksana Grigorieva that the 54-year-old actor-director physically abused her. Audio purportedly of Gibson making a series of racist and misogynistic rants was leaked earlier this year.

Though shooting on the film was completed in 2009, no release date has been announced. The Hangover 2 follows the characters on a trip to Southeast Asia for a wedding. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SUBMITTED

▶ Mel Gibson

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(even the room service).

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A toast to famous, fearless femmes

Elle magazine celebrates female achievement in film **"Women run Hollywood," says actor Harrison Ford**

They are Oscar winners and nominees, actors, directors and producers. And the honourees of Elle magazine's 17th annual Women in Hollywood celebration say they have women to thank for it.

Jodie Foster, Diane Keaton, Gwyneth Paltrow, Kate Hudson, Sofia Coppola, Hilary Swank, Kerry Washington, Diane Kruger and newcomer Jessica Chastain, who were recognized Monday night for their achievements in film, said they were inspired by other actresses and female filmmakers.

Foster, who knew at age 6 she wanted to be a director, looked to European filmmakers Lina Wertmuller and Margarethe von Trotta.

"I thought, well, if they could do it, an American can do it, too,'' she said.

MATT SAYLES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶Honoree director Sofia Coppola, left, actor Stephen Dorff, center, and Elle Fanning at ELLE magazine's 17th Annual Women in Hollywood Tribute

Meanwhile, Oscar-winning director Kathryn Bigelow called Foster "a national treasure," and Alyson Hannigan said Foster inspired her to become an actress.

"I've always loved her," Hannigan said, "So if I get to meet her tonight, like, I might pass out."

Kruger, Swank and actress Viola Davis all named Meryl Streep as one of their acting heroes. For Washington, it's Annette Bening. For Coppola, it's Anjelica Huston. Hudson and Paltrow each said their actress moms were inspirations.

With all the love in the room, director-producer Adam Shankman, who hosted the event at the Four Seasons Hotel, concluded that "being a woman in Hollywood totally rocks."

Harrison Ford speculated that the event "came to be back in the days when they said, 'There were no good parts for women' and 'Women aren't highly regarded.'''

Now, he said, "Women run Hollywood. Absolutely run Hollywood. And I'm glad."

Though significant gains have been made, honorees and presenters said they're still fighting for parity.

"There needs to be more focus on great stories, great roles for women that are just as powerful as they are with men, filled with duality, where we're all not always nice and sexless after 40 and humourless after 40," Davis said. "I think there are some amazing women out there"

Foster said it might seem quaint to celebrate women "when they really are half of what's going on in the film business."

Keaton said it's up to women to work together to tell their stories.

"We're bound together by the inexplicable wonder by being what?'' she said. "Just women." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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to Paris with my TD Points
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'If she can do it, so can I': Levi to The View

Levi Johnston says there are really no qualifications to hold the job that Sarah Palin once held, which is that of mayor of Wasilla, Alaska.

Johnston, the father of Palin's grandson, was grilled on The View Monday about his mayoral ambitions.

In August, Johnston's manager confirmed Johnston's plans to run for the office as part of a reality TV show and insisted he was serious about the move.

Johnston said the only real qualification is to live in the city limits for a year before the election.

He believes he's as qualified as any other candidate, saying he believes it's important to listen to the people and their concerns.

Johnston said he has no platform, which drew groans from the roundtable. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SUBMITTED

▶ Levi Johnston plans to run as a mayoral candidate in Wasilla, Alaska.

Polley snags Silverman

Actress/director Polley says she lucked out by recruiting comedian Silverman to star in her hotly anticipated movie, The Last Waltz

Canadian Sarah Polley says she completely lucked out by snagging her "favourite living performer right now" for her new movie, Take This Waltz, which she directed last summer in Toronto.

That performer is edgy, foul-mouthed comic Sarah Silverman.

"I think she's so brave and interesting, and pushes the envelope in so many ways. She's enormously political as well in ways that I don't think people give her credit for," said Polley.

Silverman is best known for her boundary-pushing humour — which often trades on taboo subjects like religion, race and sexism — but she shows a more serious side in Take This Waltz, said Polley, who also wrote the screenplay for the film.

"I was just really excited to work with her. I think someone like that is so obviously deeply intelligent that they are going to give a great dramatic performance and she really did in our film."

The movie, which may hit theatres next year, is Polley's hotly anticipated follow-up to her 2006 directorial debut, Away From Her, which nabbed her an Oscar nomination for best adapted screenplay.

The script, which takes its name from a Leonard Cohen song, made 2009's Hollywood Blacklist, an annual collection of highly touted unproduced screenplays.

It appeared alongside the likes of The Social Network, The King's Speech and Buried.

Take This Waltz, also starring Michelle Williams and Seth Rogen, is the story of a woman who is tempted to stray from her marriage after a chance encounter with an intriguing man on a business trip.

Things become even messier when they realize they actually live on the same street and will surely run into each other again and again.

Torontonians should have no problem recognizing their city in the film, if a script circulating online holds true.

Neighbourhoods like Little Portugal, Little Italy and Little Korea are name-checked in Polley's script, and there are references to the city's streetcars and rickshaws. One character says his biggest regret is not watching the Toronto Maple Leafs the year they went deep in the playoffs.

Scenes were also shot in Louisbourg, N.S., to depict the protagonist's business trip to Cape Breton.

Polley said the filming went smoothly and that the movie is currently in the editing stage.

She's not sure when it may hit theatres. "I don't know, sometime next year I hope," she said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Sarah Polley poses with her star at the Canada's Walk of Fame induction gala in Toronto on Oct. 16, 2010.

DAN STEINBERG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Comedian Sarah Silverman arrives at The 24th American Cinematheque Awards in Beverly Hills on March 27, 2010.

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Rock and writing

Depression doesn't trump Springfield's desire to pen "hopeful" book

Singer and actor Rick Springfield is not worried about his squeaky clean teen idol image being tarnished by his surprisingly dark new memoir, Late, Late at Night, which starts off with Springfield recounting a suicide attempt at age 17.

"The guy you see on the magazine stands, with Jessie's Girl and soap operas, always painted me as a shiny, happy guy. I was looking forward to blowing the lid off that and having people understand that I'm a three dimensional human being, instead of just a paper cut-out."

But perhaps one of the more surprising elements of the book is the fact that Springfield wrote it himself.

"I didn't want to have a biography written by a ghostwriter. I sent 30,000 words to my publisher and she loved it; she loved the voice and the approach. I really didn't want a ghostwriter because you lose so much." METRO

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Musician Rick Springfield

I paid for my all-inclusive vacation with TD Points (even the jet-ski rentals).

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GETTY IMAGES

▶ Comedian, actor and author Judah Friedlander

Buttkick 101

Metro talks training and time travel with newfound writer Friedlander

Judah Friedlander, who plays a staff writer on NBC's 30 Rock, knew he had a gift, but it wasn't for entertaining — it was for martial arts, The stand-up comedian and actor decided to share his hard-fighting acumen with his new book, How to Beat Up Anybody.

We talked with the master about his work. Here's a tip: don't take anything in this article as truth.

How did you become a world champion of karate?

Well, I'm not a world champion, I am the world champion. I won it. It's the most coveted trophy in all of sports and martial arts. I first won it back in the '80s but I'm still undefeated. And with this book, this is the first time I'm showing the general public my techniques so that everyone can stay safe.

Does your expertise come from your innate abilities or do you attribute it to years of hard training?

That's an excellent question. It's a mix. I have a natural gift, and I've worked on it. I first learned martial arts when I was 13. I was in federal prison in China for a crime I didn't commit and I learned from the inmates.

You have a section on how a woman can defend herself and even dress the part to illustrate it. How did it feel to be in a woman's shoes?

Well, I've been there before. Everything in this book is real. There's not one staged photograph and to prepare for this book, in 1983, I went back in time to 1975, got a sex change and lived as a woman for two years in Istanbul. I was abused — this was before I was the world champion. I did that so I can learn because I want to give back. I want to learn what it's like for a woman to defend herself, so I actually did. METRO

Acting Up

Judah Friedlander on keeping karate skills sharp while working for 30 Rock.

▶ "When I'm taking a break from beating people up and winning trophies, I'll head over to 30 Rock. I'm actually only there for security purposes. And you know, every once in a while, they'll give me some lines. It's just something to mix the day up."

I paid for a resort in paradise with TD Points (even the scuba lessons).

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Rowling receives Anderson prize

Harry Potter author J.K. Rowling has won the Hans Christian Andersen Literature Prize.

She is the first recipient of the 500,000 kroner ($93,352) award, which was handed out yesterday at a ceremony in Odense, Andersen's hometown.

The prize is given to one who can be compared with Andersen, the Danish writer who wrote some 160 fairy tales and poems between 1805 and 1875.

Rowling said the author of such classics as The Little Mermaid and the The Ugly Duckling had "created indestructible, eternal characters."

Rowling's seven harry Potter books have sold more than 400 million copies. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Author J.K. Rowling

Twain tops lists post-mortem

It's never too late: Mark Twain is back on the best-seller lists.

Pre-orders for the first of three planned volumes of his autobiography, released in full upon the centennial of Twain's death, have for the past few days placed the book in the top five of Barnes & Noble.com and Amazon.com. It is outpacing new works by Ken Follett, John Grisham and Jon Stewart.

The Autobiography of Mark Twain, Volume 1 comes out Nov. 15 from the University of California Press.

Excerpts have appeared over the past several decades, but Twain's strong opinions on current affairs and other matters were left out, at his request. He had said that it was best to wait 100 years after his death for the whole book to be released. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Canada's got fashion

- Toronto Fashion week celebrates our own
- Model Coco Rocha praises venue

Homegrown style and patriotic pride converged in a vibrant and eclectic showcase on the catwalk Monday night as the opening of Toronto's LG Fashion Week featured some of Canada's noteworthy and leading design talents.

Stylewatchers flocked to the grounds of the Canadian National Exhibition for the launch of the 23rd season of the semi-annual showcase, which will display the latest spring/summer 2011 collections from both Canadian and international designers.

But on opening night, it was all about the red and white.

"This is the week we show 'The Style of Power.' Canadian cool," said Fashion Design Council of Canada president Robin Kay, referring to the theme of this season's event.

Renowned Canadian supermodel Coco Rocha took to the microphone rather than the catwalk to address the audience and show support for her hometown's event.

"I have to say I'm loving this venue," said the Toronto-born, B.C.-raised Rocha. "Don't tell New York, but it's much better."

Luxury retailer Holt Renfrew opened the five-day fashion fest with a special presentation which unveiled select looks from a top-shelf collective of Canadian designers and labels, including Smythe and Wings + Horns.

Jeremy Laing opened the showcase with a succession of lush, fluid separates in soft, neutral tones including a draped white coat, sheer dress and knit tunic.

Lida Baday offered crisp classics and dainty separates including an asymmetrical black sleeveless dress, pleat front top paired with draped pants and a blush coloured pleated dress with cap sleeves and bow detailing.

Line Runway punched up the colour quotient with peach wide-leg culottes paired with a sheer top and a dusty rose knit dress among the looks on display.

Mikhael Kale left some jaws dropped with some barely-there designs, including a jewel-encrusted mini dress and navel-baring jumpsuit.

Toronto punk rock group Die Mannequin cranked up the decibel level on the runway offering a live soundtrack of hard-driving tunes for the presentation of the new collection dubbed "Japanese Prepster." The succession of slim-fitting pants, Bermuda-style shorts and crisp blazer was drenched in soft hues including pale mint green, lavender and baby blue.

Fashion Week runs until Friday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Watch online

For those who won't have a chance to see the designs in person, the Fashion Design Council of Canada, which organizes the event, is bringing style lovers a click away from the catwalk. The FDCC plans to live stream the shows, which can be accessed at lgfashionweek.ca.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/DARREN CALABRESE

▶ Bustle designers Shawn Hewson and Ruth Promislow. Bustle closed out the opening night with pieces that mix rock 'n roll with preppy chic.

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Bieber's mom feels shut out

Source says she's talking to a lawyer about Justin's planned autobiography

Pattie Mallette, mother of teen sensation Justin Bieber, is worried she' being cut out of her sons successful career, according to Radar Online.

Her worries started when she found out about Bieber's forthcoming autobiography.

"No one in Justin's camp told her or consulted her," a source says. "She found out about it by reading it in the press."

While devoted to her son, Mallette is reportedly mulling her options. "She's in a tough position," the source says. "She feels that she's being cut out of her son's business life by the people around him. She doesn't know what to do. It was a big step for her to finally go out and look for a lawyer for herself. Now we'll see if she follows through.".

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Justin Bieber

Celebrity tweets

JIM CARREY
[@JIMCARREY] Friday night in NYC. A giant aching mass of impulse and apatite speeding toward the dawn again! You're a wild one!

LADY GAGA
[@ladygaga] Having a Perfect Manhattan, for my perfect guy. Love you Giuseppe am

Taylor Swift
[@taylorswift13] At dinner with my family, engaged in a heated argument — debating our theories on who 'You're So Vain' is about.

Johnathan Ross
[@Wossy] I drank/ate too much coffee and fruit. Would make a great pinata for cannibals. Main course, then desert and coffee in one handy skin. Yum.

Talking points

Aguilera finds support

BLAME. Christina Aguilera reportedly blames husband Jordan Bratman for the collapse of their marriage, according to Page Six.

"She feels that he held her back when she wanted to focus more on her career," a source says. Meanwhile, Aguilera has reportedly been turning to Lindsay Lohan's ex-girlfriend, Samantha Ronson, for emotional support, though sources deny rumours the two are hooking up.

METRO

Gaga ready to settle down?

COMMITMENT. Things are getting serious enough between Lady Gaga and boyfriend Luc Carl that the pair reportedly took part in a "spiritual commitment ceremony," according to Grazia magazine. "It was their first step towards marriage," a source says. "They both dressed up and said beautiful handwritten vows. They then exchanged rings in a spiritual service and drank shots before sitting down to a lovely private dinner at a tiny restaurant."

And the ceremony was just the beginning, according to the source: "They are still planning to marry, but that will come later when she has the time to plan a big Italian-style wedding."

METRO

Lady Gaga

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hot weather holidays

A-LIST GETAWAYS: Follow these celebrity vacationers

How to travel with your kids and avoid those tantrums

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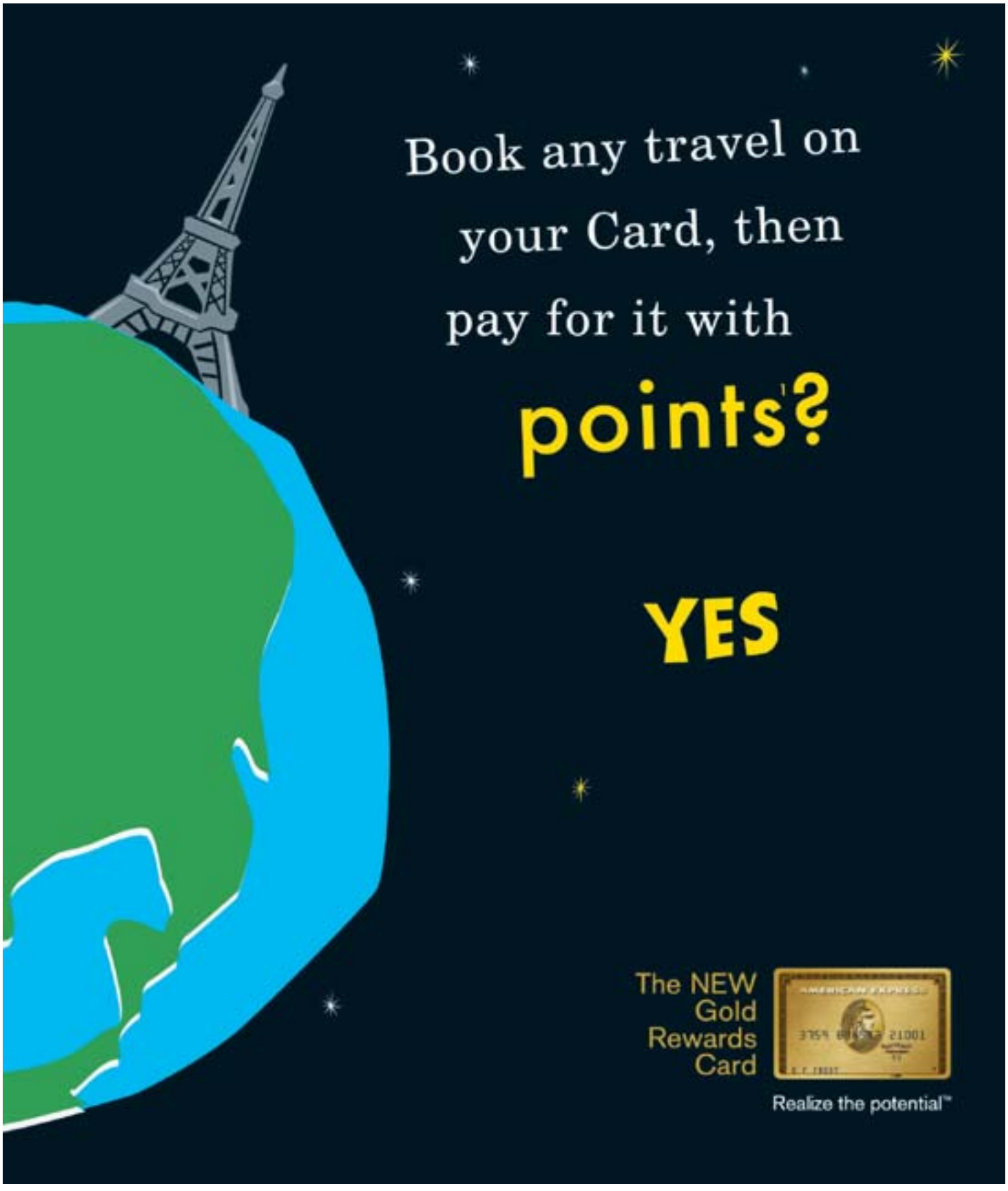
Destinations that will take the chill off winter



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If the vast treasures of the Louvre beckon, you'll delight in The Westin Paris' address. Just moments from the Louvre, the wondrous city of Paris is at your doorstep. Located in the first Arrondissement, the Westin is just steps from the Place Vendôme, Place de la Concorde and the elegant Rue du Faubourg Saint Honoré.

And for art lovers who want to venture a little closer to home, Chicago is a must. With The Starwood Preferred Guest Credit Card from American Express, Cardmembers with a passion for art and architecture can quickly earn Starpoints to make this trip a reality. Set in the middle of the famed Chicago Loop, the W Chicago - City Center is close to the Chicago Art Institute and the magnificent 24.5 acre Millennium Park.

For an indulgent shopping experience, the SLS Hotel in Beverley Hills is a mecca for trendsetters and designer enthusiasts. Complimentary house cars at the SLS make more trips to iconic Rodeo Drive than to any other destination in the city.

If Fifth Avenue is more your style, the bespoke St. Regis Hotel New York offers the closest proximity to celebrated shops such as Tiffany & Co., Saks Fifth Avenue, Henri Bendel, Wempe Jewelers , Bergdorf Goodman, F.A.O. Schwarz and more. And if you want to make your trip even more memorable, consider using your Starpoints for a once-in-a-lifetime experience with SPG Moments while on your shopping vacation.

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The art of pursuing your passions through travel

What's the difference between a hobby and a passion? For the art or architecture lover, it's the need to see a painting or a building in person rather than in a photograph. And for the shopper, it's indulging in world class shopping experiences. Most of us have hobbies that we'd love to turn into passion points, but few of us can afford to consistently make this plan a reality.

But what if you were able to pursue your passions using reward points instead of tapping into your bank account? With The Starwood Preferred Guest® Credit Card from American Express, it's simple to earn Starpoints by making everyday purchases on items like groceries and gas—a quick and easy way for hobbyists to pursue their passions, as Cardmembers earn one Starpoint for every dollar spent. Starpoints can be used for hotel stays around the world at brands such as Westin, Sheraton, Le Méridien and W.

ISTOCK

Vacation like a Celebrity

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ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

▶ The Travolta-Prestons

THE BAHAMAS

For twosomes who are like ships that pass in the night because of jam-packed schedules and are desperately in need of pampering time together.

Poster couple
John Travolta and wife Kelly Preston make time for intimate getaways at places like the ultraposh resort, Atlantis, in the Bahamas. With more than 2,000 rooms, the resort might not be intimate but even these stars can get lost in the crowd.

▶ The Pitt-Jolies

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

For twosomes who rank styrofoam, George W. Bush and SUVs high among the environmental evils of the world.

Poster couple
Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie like to keep it real in the DR. They stroll the streets and hang with the locals, before hiding away at an exclusive resort, like the Punta Cana Resort & Club.

The sugary-white beaches of the Dominican Republic are why most people head there, but its best-kept secret is its eco-friendly side.

Hike through unspoiled mangrove swamps and mountains with cascading waterfalls.

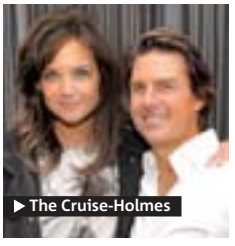
▶ The Beckhams

BARBADOS

For let's just do it twosomes who can't get the vacuum cleaner out of the front-hall closet because it's jammed with baseball gloves, golf clubs, yoga mats and last year's dart-tourney trophy.

Poster couple
David and Victoria Beckham flaunt their rippled bodies on the beach at celebrity-magnet Sandy Lane, the island's most exclusive, and expensive, resort.

When they're not frolicking in the waves, they lounge in their ocean-view suite, far away from the unwashed masses seeking autographs.



▶ The Cruise-Holmes

MEXICO'S MAYAN RIVIERA

For hipster couples who like to follow the crowd on the road to what's hot and happening.

Poster couple
Tom Cruise has always been one to be on top on the latest trend. He kicked off the global obsession with aliens with War of the Worlds and snagged himself a young wife (a popular Hollywood tradition) in the form of Katie Holmes.

He also knows a good thing: He booked a romantic getaway with his beloved at the Maroma Resort and Spa, a nearly $5,000-a-night sweet spot in the Mayan Riviera.

▶ The Smiths

GRENADA

For twosomes who love facing challenges and adversity head-on and want a trip to a place with strong conviction and spirit.

Poster couple
Will Smith and Jada Pinkett Smith, Heidi Klum and Seal. Both of these couples share things in common: It's the second time around for both, and these twosomes have vacationed on the spice island. Sure, they could've given up on finding love again and taken a vow of chastity, but they licked their wounds, found fresh amore and hooked-up for a sequel marriage.

3 life

SeaWorld

A new roller-coaster and a tropical fish venue are coming to two Florida theme parks owned by SeaWorld Parks. Park officials announced last week that the roller coaster Cheetah Hunt is coming to Bush Gardens Tampa, while Grand Reef will open at Discovery Cove in Orlando.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Fans mourn closing of Liberace Museum as another sign of fading showmanship

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You don't need to have kids to enjoy all Disneyland has to offer There are activities for all-ages

KRISTA SYLVESTER
TRAVEL@METRONEWS.CA

They say it's the happiest place on earth, and well ... it is.

You don't need to have kids to enjoy all Disneyland has to offer at just a flight away.

From the food and wine to the attractions and games, Downtown Disney and special Aladdin performance, there is a variety of activities and attractions that appeals to adults.

A theme park staple, Aladdin: A Musical Spectacular will be taking its last bow this fall, but with an updated Genie making modern jokes — about Lady Gaga, Twitter and other adult humour — this is one show parents won't want to miss, with or without the kids.

"Whether you're one or all the way to 101, there's always something fun for everyone at Disneyland," Marlie Morrison, managing director of Disney Parks Canada said.

With two parks to enjoy, the classic Disneyland and the 10-year old Disney's California Adventure, there is double the fun. The best bet would be to purchase a "park hopper pass", which ranges in price and number of days. There are three hotel resorts located directly within the parks vicinity for those who want to be right in the action.

As for the rides, while Disney certainly has its fair share of kids rides, adults will enjoy the selection as well from the crazy roller-coaster California Screaming to the Tower of Terror — not for the weak of heart. But also the Soaring' Over California ride offers adults a few moments of hang gliding — simulated of course — over California's many incredible sights. For those old enough to remember, check out the Captain EO Tribute paying homage to Michael Jackson, in 3-D. The best part is all of these attractions are included in the admission price.

Costs

Admission cost:

- **5-day park Hopper (two days free)** Kids - $154, Adults $184
- **2-day park Hopper** Kids - $131, Adults - $151
- **1-day park Hopper** Kids - $87, Adults - $97
- **1-day, 1 park** Kids - $62, Adults $72

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ There are rides for all ages at Disneyland.

FLICKR: GLENN GUTIERREZ

▶ Everyone can feel like royalty during a trip to Disney's castle.

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Make traveling with children a pain-free trip

How to avoid temper tantrums and delays on your vacation Being prepared is always the best advice

JESSICA LEWIS
TRAVEL@METRONEWS.CA

ISTOCK

Having heartwarming pictures of little Susie and John in front of a gorgeous landscape or city skyline is priceless, but getting them there can cost you a lot of energy. Here are some tips to make your trip run more smoothly.

Make sure your child has the proper travel documents. If travelling abroad, they need a passport. For any kind of travel, they might also need their birth certificate showing the names of both parents. Or if they are with one parent, they need a consent letter from the other or a death certificate. Websites such as Passport Canada have more information.

Whether you're opting for planes, trains or automobiles, keeping a child content can be a chore. According to Jamie Pearson, publisher of the award-winning website Travel Savvy Mom, a lot can keep your children content and entertained.

"For flights with young kids, bring a bag of inexpensive toys that they've never seen before," she says. "For road trips, buy a selection of children's audio books or (loan) from your local library. You'll be surprised how the miles fly by when everyone is transported by a well-told story."

Pearson also recommends bringing a portable DVD player and an iPhone or iPad with kid-friendly apps.

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Vancouver one-way $175
Travel Nov 17/ac — + taxes & fees $61

New York $196
Travel Dec 2 - Dec 9/la — + taxes & fees $106

Mexico City $249
Travel Dec 1 - Dec 8/ua — + taxes & fees $316

San Francisco $289
Travel Dec 1 - Dec 8/dl — + taxes & fees $127

Roatan, Honduras $365
Travel Dec 13 - Dec 20/wg — + taxes & fees $240

Barcelona $489
Travel Dec 1 - Dec 8/kl — + taxes & fees $368

Quito $569
Travel Dec 3 -Dec 9/dl — + taxes & fees $332

Bali $1088
Travel Jan 18 - Feb 7/qr — + taxes & fees $354

Holiday Season Vacations

Niagara Falls New Years Eve, 2 Nights $84
Radisson Hotel & Suites Fallsview — taxes & fees included
Travel Dec 31 - Jan 2/ggv.

Montreal New Years Eve, 2 Nights $169
Le Centre Sheraton — taxes & fees included
Travel Dec 31 - Jan 2/ggv. UPGRADE to 5-star Fairmont Queen Elizabeth for $28 per night.

New York Air + 3 Nights $629
New Yorker Hotel — + taxes & fees $120
INCLUDES accom in the heart of mid-town Manhattan. Departs Dec 21/ggv/ac.

Varadero Christmas
7 Nights 4-Star All-Inclusive $735
Arenas Doradas — + taxes & fees $220
Departs Dec 19/swg/wg

Vacations

Prague Air + 7 Nights $829
Harmony Hotel — + taxes & fees $388
INCLUDES central accom close to Old Town Square. Departs Feb 15/ggv/kl.

Dubai Air + 7 Nights $1179
Golden Sands #3 — + taxes & fees $479
INCLUDES central accom. Departs Mar 8/ggv/kl.

Phuket Air + 7 Nights 4-Star $1559
Cape Panwa Hotel — + taxes & fees $341
INCLUDES resort accom in Phuket and 1 night airport accom in Bangkok. Departs Feb 1/ggv/ey.

USA

Orlando Family Special
Air + 7 Nights $149◊
Champions World Resort — + taxes & fees $238
INCLUDES central accom close to theme parks with shuttle service. Departs Nov 11/ggv/ts.
BOOK this package based on double occupancy for $229 plus taxes.

Las Vegas Halloween, Air + 4 Nights $345
Circus Circus — + taxes & fees $247
INCLUDES accom on the Las Vegas Strip. Departs Oct 31/swg/wg.

Miami Air + 3 Nights $399
The Colony Hotel — + taxes & fees $110
INCLUDES accom in the heart of South Beach with free wireless internet. Departs Dec 9/ggv/dl.
ADD Key West day trip for $99.

Chicago Air + 3 Nights $449
Palmer House Hilton — + taxes & fees $106
INCLUDES accom in the heart of Chicago. Departs Dec 2/ggv/dl. ADD Chicago City pass for $69.
UPGRADE to 4-star Conrad Chicago for $27 per night.

St Pete Beach, Florida
Air + 7 Nights $539
Beachcomber Beach Resort — + taxes & fees $109
Departs Nov 1/ggv/dl. BONUS complimentary parking and use of ammenities at the Grand Plaza Beachfront Resort included. UPGRADE to 4-star Tradewinds Sandpiper for $46 per night.

Honolulu Air + 7 Nights $899
Aqua Palms Hotel & Spa — + taxes & fees $129
INCLUDES accom on Waikiki beach. Departs Jan 18/ggv/dl.

All-inclusive Vacations

Santa Lucia, Cuba
7 Nights 4-Star $197
Be Live Brisas Santa Lucia — + taxes & fees $216
Departs Nov 18/nol/c6.

Varadero 5 Nights 3.5-Star $177
Hotel Tuxpan — + taxes & fees $216
Departs Oct 31/nol/c6/ts.

Santa Clara 7 Nights 4.5-Star $288
Melia Cayo Santa Maria — + taxes & fees $216
Departs Nov 4/vat/ts.

Punta Cana 7 Nights 4-Star $300
Sirenis Cocotal Beach Resort — + taxes & fees $333
Departs Nov 11/sqv/qk.

Mayan Riviera 7 Nights 5-Star $398
Grand Sirenis Mayan Beach — + taxes & fees $283
Departs Oct 30/vat/c6/ts.

Panama 5 Nights 4.5-Star $415
Breezes Resort and Spa by SuperClubs — + taxes & fees $245
Departs Oct 27/swg/wg.

Jamaica 7 Nights 4-Star $487
Holiday Inn Sunspree — + taxes & fees $279
Departs Oct 30/nol/ts.

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THE HEART OF CUBA

History is Alive in Santa Clara

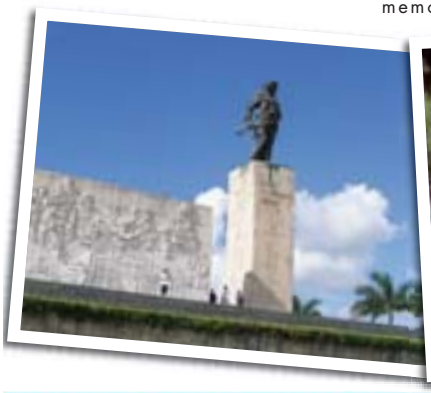
Going to Cuba is like taking a trip around the world in perfect weather. You can clamber over the ruins of French coffee plantations. Tour Spanish colonial cities dating back to the 16th century. Luxuriate in European-style spas. Swing to Afro-Cuban and Latin rhythms. Hike through spectacular mountains and forests. Dive on one of the world's great reefs. Walk on amazing beaches. And fish where Hemingway fished.

THE CENTRE OF THE ISLAND

Santa Clara is the capital of Villa Clara, one of several provinces located in Cuba's central region. Today a city of about 240,000 people, Santa Clara figured prominently in the overthrow of General Fulgencio Batista by the forces of Fidel Castro in 1958. Batista fled only 12 hours after revolutionary leader Ernesto Che Guevara captured the city, ending the war.

Santa Clara commemorates this period in many ways. The bodies of Guevara and 16 of his troops now rest in the city's Che Guevara Mausoleum, part of a memorial site that includes a large square for parades and rallies, an eternal flame, a nearly 7-m (22-ft) bronze statue of the revolutionary leader, and a museum dedicated to his life.

Not far away is the Armored Train Park-Museum. This attraction is a reminder of one of the pivotal moments in the Battle of Santa Clara, when Guevara and his troops derailed an armoured train filled with enemy combatants and supplies. The cars still stand, as does the bullet-ridden bulldozer used to tear up the track. Tourists can explore them all.



THE CENTRE OF THE CITY

Santa Clara is the centre of Cuba, and Parque Vidal is the centre of Santa Clara. This busy plaza, covering one city block, was planned and built more than 300 years ago along traditional Spanish lines. The space is surrounded by monuments and architecture in a variety of styles; within, it features cafes and bustling foot traffic. If you visit on a weekend, enjoy the tunes of Santa Clara's municipal orchestra, which plays in the Glorieta (gazebo), erected in 1911.

SURROUNDED BY BEAUTY

Once you've visited the heart of Santa Clara, consider the view from above. Capiro's Hill, a group of three small peaks overlooking the city, provides an exceptional view of Santa Clara—so much so that Che Guevera himself once used it when planning his attack on the train. Like so much of Santa Clara, Capiro's Hill is more than just a beautiful site: It is a place where important things happen. And it is a place you should see for yourself.

TRAVEL PLANNER

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Any truth to hotel ratings?

How to know what ratings really mean and which ones to trust **Don't get taken in by fake rating systems**

ISTOCK PHOTOS

▶ Canadians usually look for four star accommodations say travel experts.

When you put confidence into a nice vacation once a year, you want your money's worth in hotel or resort quality. So when you're spending all those hours toiling away on travel websites or talking with an agent, how much does the star rating mean in your decision?

Mahmood Tejpar, a manager at Marlin Travel in Calgary, rates hotels and resorts usually from two to five stars. The differences, he says, are in terms of amenities.

"The higher the star, the more facilities like spas, bistros, discotheques, more pools, more restaurants," he says. Staff service, food quality and location can also be taken into consideration. But with each perk, that likely means the price will increase.

Tejpar says Canadians usually look for four star accommodations. To help clients, Marlin Travel gives ratings of budget, moderate, superior and luxury alongside stars.

Ratings are all over the map.

They can be awarded by agencies, critics, anonymous online reviews or the hotels themselves. Hotwire takes an average from other websites and customer feedback.

Expedia lets you filter your searches by amenities such as air conditioning and gyms.

Frommer's, a popular guide book series, makes up its own ratings, from zero to three stars in recommendations.

And competing guide Lonely Planet barely even acknowledges the grades, but suggests you look at the bigger picture.

"As a Lonely Planet author we regularly ignored them," says editor Robert Reid. "As they are so inconsistent country to country, we find they're not the most consistent way of conveying quality. Some [hotels] add an elevator for an extra star, for example, and charge more, but have far less comfortable rooms than a two-floor bed and breakfast walk-up."

If you're looking for some swanky hot spots in warmer regions this winter, Tejpar recommends well-branded hotel chains Bahia Principe, Barcelo and Occidental in Mexico and the Caribbean Islands. And if you want to go above and beyond, then there's the Waldorf Astoria resort in La Quinta, California. "It has 41 pools and 53 hot spas," laughs Tejpar.

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FLICKR: WONDERLANE

▶ Forget swimming with the dolphins, swimming with sea lions is the new hit attraction.

Swimming with the lions a roar in Puerto Vallarta

Vallarta Adventures lets you get up close with huge sea lions These gentle giants are great with humans

THE TRAVELIN' CANADIAN

DARREN PARKMAN
LIFE@METRONEWS.CA

Swimming with Dolphins has long been a favourite tourist attraction along Mexico's Pacific Coast, but how bout doing laps alongside big blubberly sea lions?

Just outside downtown Puerto Vallarta, you can literally get "nose to whiskers" with these super friendly giants.

For around 75 bucks Canadian, Vallarta Adventures offers a rare chance to get up close and personal with several well-trained lions.

Sure, I'll admit I was a bit intimidated, in fact downright worried, about splashing around in the same pool with a 1,500 pound hairy creature, but my new friend Cassandra the lion, soon put my mind at ease.

She swam right up, threw a welcoming flipper around my fragile neck, gave me a big hug, and planted a big wet, fishy kiss on me.

Okay, admittedly it was the most affection I'd had in awhile, but I really could have lived without that overpowering tuna breath.

That aside, the whole experience really was downright fascinating.

These mammals are darned intelligent, and love to frolick with humans in a fun, and thankfully, non-life-threatening way.

After swimming with, feeding and just hanging out with my new deep-sea friend, I was even ready for the grand finale.

Cassandra got a good head start and suddenly flew out of the water directly over my head, leaving me uncrushed, and a little sad it was all over.

It's a highly recommended once in a lifetime experience.

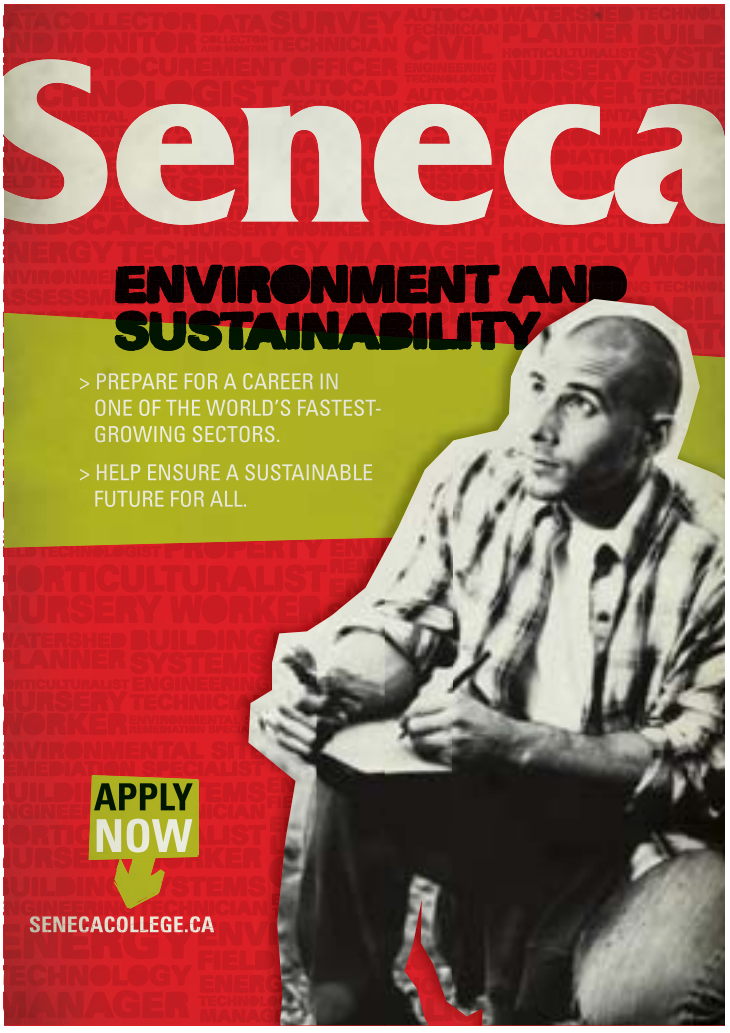
Hey, when are you going to get kissed by a 15 hundred pound monster named Cassandra again?

PUERTO VALLARTA

What else to do while there

Cruise the famous Malecon strip: P.V. is most famous for this waterfront strip that features great views, shops, and cool atmosphere. Beware, though, prices in this tourist zone are a lot higher than other Mexican tourist destinations. Surprisingly, many of the restaurants here are owned or operated by Americans and Canadians.

Deep-Sea Fishing Some of the best sport fishing in the world can be found off Puerto Vallarta, which after all, was just a tiny fishing port before the tourists started showing up. Several companies offer day long charters in search of Sailfish and Marlin.



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Varadero

Sirenis La Salina Varadero Beach Resort • 4★

All-Inclusive • Standard rm.
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+Taxes & other fees (including service charges): $233
Departure tax: 25 CUC cash, paid locally

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Meliá Las Dunas • 4★

All-Inclusive • Standard rm.
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Departure tax: 25 CUC cash, paid locally

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

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Nov. 7 - Dec. 12 • 1 wk.

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+Taxes & other fees (including service charges): $314

Punta Cana

Occidental Grand Punta Cana • 4★

All-Inclusive
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Liberia

Occidental Grand Papagayo • 4 1/2★

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The Village Inn & Spa • 3★

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All-Inclusive • Junior suite
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+Taxes & other fees (including service charges): $287

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- **Pick up a surf board and try your hand at the waves**

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▶ Honolulu is Hawaii's hotest spot for tourists.

In Hawaiian, the word Honolulu means "place of shelter," and this laid-back piece of paradise is indeed the perfect shelter from the fast-paced city lifestyle.

Surf and turf your way around Hawaii's coolest spot.

See Lolani Palace

As the only remaining royal palace in the U.S., Iolani is a historical landmark. Find out more about the palace's history from when it was built by King Kalakaua in 1882 with a guided tour.
iolanipalace.org

Hear Tropical Tunes

By day, Chinatown is a bustling area where you can wander around market stalls slurping on noodles or sampling dim sum. By night, it's a musical hub with great live music. Hank's Café Honolulu on the edge of Chinatown is a friendly hotspot popular with the locals.
hankscafehonolulu.com

Drink Mai Tai

Where else would you drink a Mai Tai but the Mai Tai Bar? The open-air venue hosts weekly music gigs and the happy hour deals will leave you smiling. Traditional Mai Tai, Mango Mai Tai, Lychee Mai Tai or Icy Mai Tai…? Possibly the most difficult decision you'll make on your holiday.
maitaibar.com

Do Surf 'n' Turf

Water activities are the thing to do. Try your hand at boogie boarding, surfing, snorkeling, or challenge the waves by hopping into an outrigger canoe. Exploring surrounding islands on a kayak is great fun. Kailua Beach has some good waves but Waikiki is best for beginners.

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Book reflects local food philosophy

To cook like the world's best chef you might try his recipe for snails, which instructs the reader to feed them lettuce for a couple of days, put them in a pan of water, and bring it to a boil, "making sure that the snails don't escape."

It's not your typical cookbook entry. But Rene Redzepi is hardly your typical cook.

At age 32, he is the chef of the moment, ever since his Copenhagen restaurant, Noma, grabbed first place on Restaurant Magazine's list of the world's 50 best restaurants last spring. He stole the spotlight from perennial "it" restaurant elBulli in Spain and established with surprising suddenness the supremacy of a movement known as neo-Nordic cuisine.

When Noma opened seven years ago, Danish colleagues mocked Redzepi for his pledge to use indigenous ingredients in a region where very little grows, and where haute cuisine was either French or Italian.

But Redzepi stubbornly resisted, foraging for wild herbs and experimenting with Icelandic cheese and Norwegian razor clams. Yet he felt he was still cooking in a style borrowed from the places he had trained, including elBulli.

Redzepi's culinary epiphany came while he was hunting for muskox in Greenland, the temperature a frigid -48 C. "It was healthy to take time out and think, 'Why I am doing these things?'" he said. "Suddenly I could put a word to it, that the main thing people should experience is a sense of time and place."

Now, every dish he creates is a microcosm of its origins, a little piece of nature on a plate.

At Noma, you might eat a pot of raw radishes in a malt and hazelnut soil. A quail egg smoked in hay. Horseradish snow. And, of course, those snails, alongside the same moss they inhabit in the wild. His pure, contemporary style has struck a chord — his 12-seat restaurant receives 4,000 reservation requests a day.

Last month, Redzepi released a much-anticipated cookbook, Noma: Time and Place in Nordic Cuisine (Phaidon), with a book tour that took him around the globe.

The book features 200 photos, portraits of farmers, a diary from the early days, and recipes (though the average cook might be overwhelmed by the prospect of tracking down sea buckthorn or chasing snails).

"It's not really about, 'I'm going to go home and cook a five-course meal from Noma,'" admits Redzepi. "You can read about people, discover a region, a restaurant, a philosophy."

And a cuisine that goes well beyond Danish pastries. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Simple dish, complex flavour

Sauteed chicken with Caramelized Onions

▶ Quick, easy and flavourful.

Preparation:

1. Cut onions into 6 wedges each. Sprinkle chicken with 1/4 tsp each salt and pepper.
2. In large skillet, add 2 tsp margarine and melt over medium-high heat. Sauté chicken until browned, about 3 minutes per side; transfer to plate.
3. Reduce heat to medium and melt remaining margarine in skillet. Sauté onions, 1 tbsp sugar, and remaining salt and pepper until onions turn golden brown and caramelize, 8 minutes. Stir frequently, breaking onions apart. Add broth and boil until evaporated, 2 minutes.
4. Stir in rosemary, thyme, and remaining sugar. Return chicken to skillet and sprinkle with vinegar. Cook, uncovered, until juices of chicken run clear, about 4 minutes. Serves 4

RECIPE COURTESY READERS DIGEST

Ingredients :

- 750 g medium onions
- 4 skinless, boneless chicken breast halves
- Salt to taste
- 1/2 tsp pepper
- 4 tsp margarine
- 2 tbsp superfine sugar
- 1/3 cup reduced-sodium chicken broth
- 1 tsp chopped fresh rosemary
- 1 tsp chopped fresh thyme
- 1 tbsp red wine vinegar

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▶ Franchises account for 40 per cent or all retail sales in Canada.

What do Comfort Keepers, Survivor Bootcamp, PostNet, Reliable Independent Living Services, Canadian Tire and Cora Breakfast and Lunch all have in common?

They're franchises, which account for 40 per cent of all retail sales in Canada and 10 per cent of the GDP, and employ more than one million Canadians, according to the Canadian Franchise Association (CFA). They attract a diverse group, from former franchise employees and corporate executives, to new immigrants, young entrepreneurs, and women, like Cora Tsouflidou — part of a growing demographic, according to a 2008 national survey commissioned by Gowling Lafleur Henderson LLP.

Divorced with three teenage children to support, Tsouflidou opened her first restaurant in Quebec in 1980. She sold the popular eatery to work at a large establishment where she honed her skills.

In 1987, she debuted Cora Breakfast and Lunch; other locations soon followed. In order to grow her business, build her brand and "teach others her winning recipe," she chose franchising as her business strategy.

The first franchise opened in 1994; today there are more than 115 across the country with annual sales of more than $125 million. Tsouflidou credits her success to "initiative, perseverance, self-confidence and boundless energy."

What's The Next Big Thing?

Here are two growing sectors:

• Senior/Home Care Services: Thirteen percent of the Canadian population is aged 65 and older, and this population expected to double over the next 20 to 25 years, says Arif Abdulla, marketing and PR director for Nurse Next Door, Canada's fastest-growing home care franchise. This is a largely unregulated, competitive industry, says Abdulla, that demands a 24/7 commitment.

• Business Consultants: Includes everything from coaches to brokers that serve businesses and help them grow or operate better. Gemma Business Brokers president Maurice Muise says B2B franchises offer a professional services opportunity, life/work balance and growth market as boomers start retiring.

How do you find your own recipe for success?

"Making sure the franchise is right for you is essential for success and fulfillment," says Lorraine McLachlan, CFA president and CEO. Here are just a few questions she suggests you ask yourself. For more tips for potential franchisees (those buying franchises) and franchisors (those selling them), visit cfa.com.

• What motivates me? Potential revenue, challenging work, people, service, recognition, safety, security?

• How much structure, support, supervision or feedback do I need? New franchises tend to offer more flexibility with rules; more established ones tend to have more rigid systems and operating procedures.

• How much money do I have to invest? Licensing fees can run from $5,000 to $75,000-plus. Other expenses usually include royalties.

• How many employees do I want?

• Do I like being on the front lines and dealing with customers?

• What's my job experience? Look for a business that fits with your expertise. METRO

top franchises

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FAILURE TO INVESTIGATE COST COMPANY THE CASE

Today, much of the workforce views itself as being bullied or harassed.

Often it is for a good reason. However, as harassment is often in the eyes of the beholder, many companies have become complacent, satisfied to have employees police themselves. As a recent Ontario case illustrates, to do so flirts with a significant lawsuit.

Douglas Disotel was no stranger to Kraft Canada's disciplinary policies. Disotel, a whey dryer operator at Kraft's cheese factory in Ingleside, Ont., had a run in with a manager after he was caught gossiping about the manager's former wife. Disotel disagreed with being disciplined, believing that Kraft sided with his manager in a non-workplace dispute.

Soon afterwards, Disotel's coworkers began razzing him, asking if he was involved in a sexual relationship with his manager and questioning his sexual orientation.

Disotel complained to his supervisor on several occasions, but instead of reporting the conduct to Kraft's human resources department, the supervisor told him that the comments would stop if he didn't react to them.

Fed up with his supervisor's lack of response to his concerns, Disotel retained a lawyer and told his supervisor he was contemplating filing a harassment complaint.

Disotel was told that a complaint could lead to his termination. Believing that Kraft would not fairly investigate the situation, Disotel went on sick leave and never returned. Eventually he sued Kraft, claiming that he had effectively been fired.

Workplace Law

DANIEL LUBLIN

IS AN EMPLOYMENT LAWYER WITH WHITTEN & LUBLIN LLP.
DAN@TORONTO-EMPLOYMENTLAWYER.COM

"It is easier to be critical than correct."
BENJAMIN DISRAELI

At a recent trial, the judge sided with Disotel agreeing that he had effectively been fired and criticizing Kraft's handling of the matter. Although Kraft performed an investigation, it fell far short of the standards required for it to be fair.

Kraft did not interview a number of witnesses and drew conclusions, which led the judge to believe the company was not impartial to Disotel's complaint.

Disotel was awarded one year's severance and his legal costs.

The human resources lessons are clear: No workplace complaint, however trivial, should be ignored by management. Further, although harassment is in the eyes of the beholder, employees should not fear reprisal for raising their concerns. Often, the judge sees it the same way.

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Sizing up the classroom

Smaller classes are not always cost-effective Parents should review teaching, learning practices

ISTOCK

Smaller classes are popular with parents and teachers, however, they are not always affordable.

Smaller classes are popular with parents and teachers; however, because reducing class size is a very expensive undertaking, running into hundreds of millions of dollars each year in a large province, it is important to compare this strategy with other alternatives for improving student outcomes.

Many studies have been done on the impact of class size on teaching practices and on student outcomes. Although this research inevitably contains some conflicting findings, there is a significant agreement on some major points:

- Smaller classes in primary grades have been linked with somewhat better student outcomes, but the evidence is much weaker above the primary level.
- Smaller classes may have the greatest positive impact on students with the greatest educational needs.
- Academic gains for students from smaller classes depend on changes in teaching practices, but smaller classes alone do not necessarily lead to changed teaching. Teachers need ongoing support to implement new approaches for smaller classes.
- Fewer children mean more space for classroom activities and may reduce behavioural management issues.
- Changing class size across a whole system is challenging. Teachers need to change what they do, more teachers are needed, more split grade classes may result (though there is no evidence that split grades are harmful to students) and more classrooms are needed.

Evidence to date suggests that smaller classes across an entire system are probably not the most cost-effective way to improve student outcomes when compared with, for example, investing the same money in improving teaching skills. However, the fact that both teachers and parents support smaller classes provides another kind of value.

For parents, it is important to know the size of classes in your school but, even more, to understand the teaching and learning practices being used.

more details

More information on class sizes reduction can be found at cea-ace.ca.

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News in brief

Canada seeks more Saudi med students

FOREIGN The federal government plans to boost its efforts to attract Saudi health-sciences and medical students with an agreement in health care between Canada and Saudi Arabia.

The memorandum of understanding will offer opportunities for Saudi physicians and health-care personnel to receive further training in their fields in Canada. There are over 10,000 Saudi government-sponsored students studying in Canada, including 800 Saudi doctors and medical students pursuing graduate studies in Canadian hospitals and universities.

Canada's ambassador to Saudi Arabia announced last month that medical examinations will no longer be required for most Saudi citizens, including students, who plan to stay in Canada for over six months. METRO

Students oppose degree for Vic Toews

DEGREES At the University of Winnipeg's fall convocation Sunday, the school's valedictorian used her address to criticize the university's decision to bestow an honorary doctorate of laws on federal Public Safety Minister Vic Toews.

Valedictorian Erin Larson said she was "not proud to share the stage with everybody that is on it today," not naming Toews directly.

Around 40 to 50 people gathered outside the university on Sunday afternoon to protest the honorary degree, holding signs condemning the minister for his public statements on crime, immigration, and same-sex issues.

Some protesters said Toews' stances on these issues are at odds with the University of Winnipeg's reputation for being inclusive and progressive. METRO

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Cain, Giants shut down Phillies

Cody Ross a factor again as San Francisco takes 2-1 edge in NLCS

3	0
GIANTS	PHILLIES

Cody Ross came through with another key hit this post-season, Matt Cain dazzled to outduel Cole Hamels and the San Francisco Giants beat the Philadelphia Phillies 3-0 yesterday to take a 2-1 lead in the NL championship series.

Ross hit an RBI single in the fourth inning to break a scoreless tie and fellow playoff first-timer Aubrey Huff followed with a run-scoring single.

The Giants grabbed the edge in their best-of-seven series against the two-time defending NL champions — with two more games in their home ballpark.

On a beautiful and festive fall day in the Bay Area, the Giants delivered back home in front of 43,320 towel-waving fans at AT&T Park.

Among those in the sell-out crowd — home run king Barry Bonds in a front-row seat near San Francisco's dugout.

Giants manager Bruce Bochy tweaked his lineup, and it worked.

Aaron Rowand earned a start in centre field, then doubled and scored on Freddy Sanchez's fifth-inning single.

This marked the third impressive pitcher's duel in as many games of this NLCS.

First, it was Roy Halladay versus Tim Lincecum, then Roy Oswalt and Jonathan Sanchez.

Cain allowed two hits over seven innings, struck out five and walked three in a strong 119-pitch effort.

Javier Lopez pitched the eighth and Brian Wilson finished it for his fourth post-season save and second in as many tries this series.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Game 4

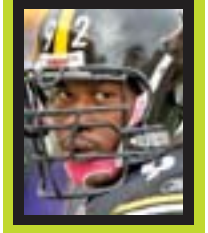
- Phillies manager Charlie Manuel was considering going back to Roy Halladay on short rest for Game 4 tonight if his team trailed, though Joe Blanton was penciled in for the start (7:30 p.m. ET). Rookie Madison Bumgarner, who pitched the division series clincher at Atlanta, goes for the Giants.

EZRA SHAW/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Matt Cain of the San Francisco Giants delivers a pitch during yesterday's Game 3 of the NLCS against the Philadelphia Phillies.

4 sports

Sports in brief



The NFL will begin suspending players for dangerous and flagrant hits, starting with this week's games, and meantime fined three players yesterday for their actions last weekend.

Pittsburgh Steeler James Harrison was docked $75,000 US, while the New England Patriots' Brandon Meriweather and the Atlanta Falcons' Dunta Robinson will lose $50,000 each.

NFL spokesman Greg Aiello said the league wanted to give players fair warning before it begins suspensions for violent hits.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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W39/W40-B-10-RT

Manager search moves on for Jays

Thomson, Martinez and Fasano among candidates Blue Jays eliminate from list for new manager

The Toronto Blue Jays have started paring down their list of managerial candidates, with Rob Thomson and Dave Martinez among those told they are out of the running.

Internal applicants Luis Rivera, the manager at double-A New Hampshire, and Sal Fasano, manager of single-A Lansing, have also been eliminated from the search, according to multiple sources with knowledge of the process.

Thomson, the New York Yankees third base coach from Sarnia, Ont., and Martinez, the former Montreal Expo and Blue Jay who is now the Tampa Bay Rays bench coach, were both considered strong potential contenders for the post.

Still very much in the running are Boston Red Sox bench coach DeMarlo Hale and Cleveland Indians first base coach Sandy Alomar Jr., the sources said.

The status of Red Sox pitching coach John Farrell, Los Angeles Angels bench coach Ron Roenicke, San Diego Padres first base coach Rick Renteria, Philadelphia Phillies bench coach Pete Mackanin, Blue Jays third base coach Brian Butterfield, and bench coach Nick Leyva is less clear.

Still, the fact that some candidates are already being eliminated from the process indicates that general manager Alex Anthopoulos is making some headway in his exhaustive search for the retired Cito Gaston's replacement.

The Blue Jays have been aiming to have a new manager in place shortly after the World Series ends so they can close the book on their thorough process and focus on off-season business.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Alomar interview

- Indians coach Sandy Alomar Jr. has interviewed for the manager's job in Toronto, a person familiar with the situation tells The Associated Press.
- Alomar, the older brother of former Blue Jays second baseman Roberto Alomar, met yesterday in Toronto with Jays officials, according to the person, who spoke on condition of anonymity because the interview had not been made public by the teams.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-Toronto	5	4	0	1	0	17	11	9	2-0-1-0	2-0-0-0	4-0-1-0	L1
d-Tampa Bay	5	4	1	0	0	17	18	8	2-0-0-0	2-1-0-0	4-1-0-0	W1
d-NY Islanders	6	3	1	1	1	20	17	8	2-0-0-1	1-1-1-0	3-1-1-1	W2
Washington	6	4	2	0	0	18	14	8	3-1-0-0	1-1-0-0	4-2-0-0	L1
Pittsburgh	7	4	3	0	0	23	16	8	2-3-0-0	2-0-0-0	4-3-0-0	W3
Montreal	5	3	1	1	0	14	13	7	1-0-1-0	2-1-0-0	3-1-1-0	W2
Boston	4	3	1	0	0	12	7	6	0-1-0-0	3-0-0-0	3-1-0-0	W3
Atlanta	5	3	2	0	0	17	16	6	1-0-0-0	2-2-0-0	3-2-0-0	W2
Philadelphia	5	2	2	1	0	11	14	5	1-2-0-0	1-0-1-0	2-2-1-0	L2
Florida	4	2	2	0	0	12	5	4	1-0-0-0	1-2-0-0	2-2-0-0	W2
Carolina	4	2	2	0	0	9	12	4	1-0-0-0	1-2-0-0	2-2-0-0	L2
NY Rangers	4	1	2	1	0	14	16	3	0-1-1-0	1-1-0-0	1-2-1-0	L3
Buffalo	6	1	4	1	0	12	18	3	0-3-1-0	1-1-0-0	1-4-1-0	L5
Ottawa	6	1	4	1	0	12	21	3	1-1-0-0	0-3-1-0	1-4-1-0	L2
New Jersey	6	1	4	1	0	10	21	3	0-3-1-0	1-1-0-0	1-4-1-0	L2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-Chicago	7	4	2	1	0	23	20	9	2-2-0-0	2-0-1-0	4-2-1-0	W3
d-Dallas	5	4	1	0	0	20	15	8	2-0-0-0	2-1-0-0	4-1-0-0	L1
d-Colorado	6	4	2	0	0	19	19	8	1-0-0-0	3-2-0-0	4-2-0-0	W1
Nashville	5	3	0	2	0	13	10	8	2-0-2-0	1-0-0-0	3-0-2-0	L2
Detroit	5	3	1	0	1	14	12	7	1-0-0-1	2-1-0-0	3-1-0-1	W1
Los Angeles	4	3	1	0	0	10	6	6	2-0-0-0	1-1-0-0	3-1-0-0	W2
Calgary	5	3	2	0	0	9	11	6	2-1-0-0	1-1-0-0	3-2-0-0	W2
St. Louis	5	2	1	1	1	14	12	6	2-0-0-0	0-1-1-1	2-1-1-1	L3
Minnesota	5	2	2	0	1	16	13	5	2-2-0-0	0-0-0-1	2-2-0-1	W1
Vancouver	6	2	3	0	1	14	18	5	2-0-0-1	0-3-0-0	2-3-0-1	L1
Anaheim	6	2	3	0	1	13	23	5	2-0-0-1	0-3-0-0	2-3-0-1	W1
Edmonton	4	2	2	0	0	12	11	4	2-0-0-0	0-2-0-0	2-2-0-0	L2
Columbus	4	2	2	0	0	10	12	4	1-1-0-0	1-1-0-0	2-2-0-0	W1
San Jose	3	1	1	1	0	7	9	3	1-1-0-0	0-0-1-0	1-1-1-0	L2
Phoenix	4	1	2	1	0	8	10	3	0-1-1-0	1-1-0-0	1-2-1-0	L3

d — division leaders ranked 1-2-3 regardless of points; a team winning in overtime or shootout is credited with two points and a victory in the W column; the team losing in overtime or shootout receives one point which is registered in the OTL (overtime loss) or SL (shootout loss) column.

Last night's results
Boston 3 Washington 1
Calgary 1 Nashville 0 (OT)
Minnesota 6 Vancouver 2
Carolina at San Jose
Monday's results
N.Y. Islanders 2 Toronto 1 (OT)
Pittsburgh 5 Ottawa 2
Chicago 3 St. Louis 2 (OT)
Colorado 3 N.Y. Rangers 1
Tampa Bay 5 Dallas 4
Tonight's games
Buffalo at Atlanta, 7 p.m.
Anaheim at Columbus, 7 p.m.
Vancouver at Chicago, 9 p.m.
Carolina at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.

FLAMES 1, PREDATORS 0 (OT)

First Period — No Scoring.
Penalty — Hagman Cal (high-sticking) 3:52.
Second Period — No Scoring.
Penalties — Jackman Cal (tripping) 2:51, Sullivan Nash (hooking) 7:10, Bouwmeester Cal (interference) 12:30, Nashville bench (too many men; served by Dumont) 14:23, White Cal (tripping) 16:37.
Third Period — No Scoring.
Penalty — Glencross Cal (goaltender interference) 14:12.
Overtime
1. Calgary, R.Bourque 1 (Morrison, White) 2:10
Penalties — None.
Shots

Calgary	12	6	14	3—35
Nashville	12	12	10	0—34

Goal — Calgary: Kiprusoff (W,3-2-0); Nashville: Rinne (L,1-0-1). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Calgary: 0-2; Nashville: 0-5.
Referees — Marc Joannette, Gord Dwyer.
Linesmen — Dan Schachte, Jonny Murray.
Attendance — 15,684 (17,113) at Nashville.

WILD 6, CANUCKS 2

First Period
1. Vancouver, D.Sedin 5 (H.Sedin, Edler) 0:58
2. Minnesota, Zidlicky 1 (Cullen, Miettinen) 6:04 (pp)
3. Minnesota, Latendresse 2 (Falk, Havlat) 7:20
4. Minnesota, Clutterbuck 2 (Latendresse, Havlat) 18:10 (pp)
Penalties — Clutterbuck Min (interference) 2:05, Ehrhoff Vcr (slashing) 5:29, Zanon Min (interference) 7:48, Rypien Vcr, Staubitz Min (fighting) 10:52, Samuelsson Vcr (cross-checking) 16:30.
Second Period
5. Minnesota, Madden 1 (Burns, Schultz) 7:54
6. Minnesota, Brunette 2 (Zidlicky, Miettinen) 12:21
7. Minnesota, Cullen 3 (Koivu, Zidlicky) 13:46 (pp)
Penalties — Nystrom Min (delay of game) 8:51, Rypien Vcr (double roughing, miscon-duct), Staubitz Min (roughing) 13:38, Cullen Min (hooking) 15:06.
Third Period
8. Vancouver, D.Sedin 6 (H.Sedin, Samuelsson) 18:31 (pp)
Penalties — Cullen Min (hooking) 2:04, Schultz Min (high-sticking) 18:10.
Shots

Vancouver	7	11	9	—27
Minnesota	11	7	6	—24

Goal (shots-saves) — Vancouver: Luongo (L,1-3-1)(18-12), C.Schneider (start third)(6-6); Minnesota: Backstrom (W,2-2-1). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Vancouver: 1-6; Minnesota: 3-3.
Referees — Chris Lee, Mike Leggo. **Linesmen** — Don Henderson, Michel Cormier.
Attendance — 16,806 (18,064) at St. Paul, Minn.

SCORING LEADERS

	G	A	PT
Hossa, Chi	7	4	11
B.Richards, Dal	2	8	10
Stamkos, TB	5	4	9
Sharp, Chi	6	2	8
Crosby, Pgh	4	4	8
Ovechkin, Wash	4	4	8
Getzlaf, Ana	2	6	8
Kopecky, Chi	1	7	8
Liles, Col	0	8	8
Kessel, Tor	5	2	7
C.Stewart, Col	5	2	7
Letestu, Pgh	4	3	7
D.Sedin, Vcr	4	3	7
Goligoski, Pgh	3	4	7
Neal, Dal	3	4	7
Martin, Pgh	1	6	7
Ribeiro, Dal	0	7	7
H.Sedin, Vcr	0	7	7
MacArthur, Tor	5	1	6
Morrow, Dal	5	1	6
Roy, Buf	5	1	6
Bailey, NYI	3	3	6
Comeau, NYI	3	3	6
Perry, Ana	3	3	6

Not including last night's games

MLB

2010 POST-SEASON

LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES
(BEST-OF-7)
(All times Eastern)
AMERICAN LEAGUE
Texas (W) vs. N.Y. Yankees (WC)
(Texas leads series 3-1)
Last night's result
Texas 10 N.Y. Yankees 3
Monday's result
Texas 8 N.Y. Yankees 0
Today's game
Texas at N.Y. Yankees, 4:07 p.m.
Friday's game
x-N.Y. Yankees at Texas, 8:07 p.m.
Saturday's game
x-N.Y. Yankees at Texas, 8:07 p.m.
NATIONAL LEAGUE
Philadelphia (E) vs. San Francisco (W)
(San Francisco leads series 2-1)
Yesterday's result
San Francisco 3 Philadelphia 0
Tonight's game
Philadelphia at San Francisco, 7:57 p.m.
Tomorrow's game
Philadelphia at San Francisco, 7:57 p.m.
Saturday's game
x-San Francisco at Philadelphia, 3:57 or 7:57 p.m.
Sunday's game
x-San Francisco at Philadelphia, 7:57 p.m.

GIANTS 3, PHILLIES 0

Philadelphia	ab	r	h	bi	San Francisco	ab	r	h	bi
Victorn cf	2	0	0	0	Renteri ss	4	1	1	0
Utley 2b	4	0	0	0	FSnchz 2b	3	0	1	1
Polanc 3b	4	0	0	0	Posey c	4	0	0	0
Howard 1b	4	0	1	0	Burrell lf	2	1	0	0
Werth rf	3	0	0	0	Schrlht rf	0	0	0	0
Rollins ss	4	0	1	0	C.Ross rf-lf	3	0	1	1
Ibanez lf	4	0	0	0	A.Huff 1b	3	0	1	1
C.Ruiz c	2	0	1	0	Uribe 3b	3	0	0	0
Hamels p	2	0	0	0	Rownd cf	3	1	1	0
Gload ph	0	0	0	0	JaLopz p	0	0	0	0
Contrrs p	0	0	0	0	BrWlsn p	0	0	0	0
M.Cain p	2	0	0	0					
ATorrs ph-cf	1	0	0	0					
Totals	**29**	**0**	**3**	**0**	**Totals**		**28**	**3**	**5**	**3**

Philadelphia	000	000	000	—0
San Francisco	000	210	00x	—3

DP—San Francisco 1. LOB—Philadelphia 7, San Francisco 3. 2B—Rowand (1). SB—Victorino (1). S—F.Sanchez.

Philadelphia	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Hamels L,0-1	6	5	3	3	1	8
Contreras	2	0	0	0	0	1
San Francisco						
M.Cain W,1-0	7	2	0	0	3	5
Ja.Lopez H,2	1	0	0	0	0	1
Br.Wilson S,2-2	1	1	0	0	0	1

HBP—by M.Cain (Victorino, C.Ruiz).
Umpires—Home, Ted Barrett; First, Wally Bell; Second, Jeff Nelson; Third, Tom Hallion; Right, Dan Iassogna; Left, Derryl Cousins.
T—2:39. A—43,320 (41,915) at San Francisco.

NBA

PRE-SEASON

Last night's results
At Cincinnati
Cleveland 111 Philadelphia 95
At Toledo, Ohio
Detroit 98 Washington 92
New York 117 New Jersey 111
Indiana 128 Minnesota 124 (OT)
Denver 130 Oklahoma City 115
At Anaheim, Calif.
Utah vs. L.A. Lakers
Golden State at Phoenix
Sacramento at L.A. Clippers
Monday's results
Charlotte 102 Miami 96
Golden State 100 Portland 78
Memphis 96 New Orleans 91
Oklahoma City 111 San Antonio 102
Orlando 102 Atlanta 73

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE
ATLANTA BRAVES—Released OF Melky Cabrera and RHP Takashi Saito.
CHICAGO CUBS—Agreed to terms with manager Mike Quade on a two-year contract.
LOS ANGELES DODGERS—Signed LHP Ted Lilly to a three-year contract.
NEW YORK METS—Removed RHP Francisco Rodriguez from the disqualified list.
WASHINGTON NATIONALS—Promoted Mike Rizzo to executive vice president of baseball operations and general manager and signed him to a five-year contract.

BASKETBALL

NBA
NEW JERSEY NETS—Exercised contract options on C Brook Lopez and G-F Terrence Williams for the 2011-12 season.
SAN ANTONIO SPURS—Waived F James Gist.

FOOTBALL

NFL
LEAGUE OFFICE—Fined Pittsburgh LB James Harrison $75,000, New England S Brandon Meriweather and Atlanta CB Dunta Robinson $50,000 each for flagrant violations of player safety rules during Oct. 17 games.
CHICAGO BEARS—Released DE Charles Grant. Signed DE Barry Turner from the practice squad.
DENVER BRONCOS—Signed LB Diyral Briggs from the practice squad. Placed WR Matthew Willis on injured reserve. Signed WR Eron Riley to the practice squad.
HOUSTON TEXANS—Released OT Ephraim Salaam. Waived LB David Nixon.
JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS—Re-signed QB Todd Bouman. Released S Gerald Alexander.
MIAMI DOLPHINS—Signed FB Deon Anderson.
NEW YORK GIANTS—Signed WR Samuel Giguere to the practice squad. Terminated the contract of OL Dennis Landolt from the practice squad.
SEATTLE SEAHAWKS—Signed DE/LB Chris McCoy to the practice squad. Released DE James Wyche from practice squad.
TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS—Acquired DE Alex Magee and a 2011 undisclosed draft pick from Kansas City for a 2011 undisclosed draft pick. Placed RB Kareem Huggins on injured reserve.

HOCKEY

NHL
ANAHEIM DUCKS—Recalled D Danny Syvret from Syracuse (AHL).
ATLANTA THRASHERS—Assigned D Boris Valabik to Chicago (AHL). Re-assigned RW Ian McKenzie from Chicago (AHL) to Gwinnett (ECHL).
BOSTON BRUINS—Recalled G Adam Courchaine from Reading (ECHL). Assigned G Matt Dalton from Providence (AHL) to Reading.
CALGARY FLAMES—Claimed D Brendan Mikkelson off waivers from Anaheim (NHL). Assigned D T.J. Brodie to Abbotsford (AHL).
COLUMBUS BLUE JACKETS—Placed D Mike Commodore on injured reserve, retroactive to Oct. 9. Recalled D Nick Holden from Springfield (AHL).
DALLAS STARS—Assigned C Aaron Gagnon to Texas (AHL).
PHOENIX COYOTES—Placed C Martin Hanzal on the injured reserve list. Recalled C Andrew Ebbett from San Antonio (AHL).

LACROSSE

NLL
EDMONTON RUSH—Signed T Devan Wray to a one-year contract.

SOCCER

MLS
PORTLAND TIMBERS—Signed G Steve Cronin, F Bright Dike, F Eddie Johnson and M Ryan Pore.

SOCCER

MLS

All Times Eastern

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pt
x-New York	29	14	9	6	36	29	48
x-Columbus	29	13	8	8	37	33	47
Kansas City	29	10	13	6	32	34	36
Chicago	29	8	12	9	33	37	33
New England	29	9	15	5	32	48	32
Toronto FC	29	8	13	8	30	39	32
Philadelphia	29	8	14	7	34	46	31
D.C. United	29	6	19	4	19	44	22

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pt
x-Los Angeles	29	17	7	5	42	25	56
x-Real Salt Lake	29	15	4	10	43	18	55
x-FC Dallas	29	12	3	14	41	26	50
x-Seattle	29	14	9	6	38	33	48
x-Colorado	29	12	8	9	42	30	45
x-San Jose	28	12	9	7	30	29	43
Houston	29	8	15	6	38	48	30
Chivas USA	28	8	16	4	30	38	28

Note: Three points for a win, one for a tie.
x — clinched playoff berth.
Tonight's game
Chivas USA at San Jose, 10 p.m.
Tomorrow's game
New England at New York, 7:30 p.m.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Yesterday's results
AS Roma 1 Basel 3
Bayern Munich 3 Cluj 2
Marseille 1 Zilina 0
Spartak Moscow 0 Chelsea 2
Ajax 2 Auxerre 1
Real Madrid 2 AC Milan 0
Arsenal 5 Shakhtar Donetsk 1
Braga 2 Partizan Belgrade 0

CONCACAF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Last night's results
Toronto (MLS) 1 Arabe Unido (Panama) 0
Santos (Mexico) 6 Municipal (Guatemala) 1

CFL

WEEK 17

EAST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	T	PF	PA	Pt
y-Montreal	15	11	4	0	477	375	22
x-Hamilton	15	8	7	0	396	369	16
Toronto	15	7	8	0	286	393	14
Winnipeg	15	4	11	0	411	407	8

WEST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	T	PF	PA	Pt
x-Calgary	15	11	4	0	505	367	22
x-Saskatchewan	15	9	6	0	425	403	18
B.C.	15	5	10	0	384	397	10
Edmonton	15	5	10	0	304	477	10

x — clinched playoff berth; y — clinched division.
Friday's games
Montreal at Hamilton, 7 p.m.
B.C. at Calgary, 10 p.m.
Saturday's games
Toronto at Winnipeg, 4 p.m.
Saskatchewan at Edmonton, 7 p.m.

SCORING LEADERS

	TD	C	FG	S	Pts
Maver, Cal	0	56	30	3	149
McCallum, BC	0	26	35	1	132
Duval, Mtl	0	37	30	4	131
DeAngelis, Ham	0	35	29	3	125
Congi, Sask	0	41	26	2	121
Prefontaine, Edm-Tor	0	25	22	2	93
Cates, Sask	15	0	0	0	90
Shaw, Tor	0	18	19	6	81
T.Edwards, Wpg	12	0	0	0	72
Palardy, Ham-Wpg	0	18	15	7	70
Bryant, Cal	11	0	0	0	66
x-Green, Mtl	10	2	0	0	62
x-Cobb, Ham	9	1	0	0	56
Robertson, BC	9	0	0	0	54
Bruce, Ham	8	0	0	0	48
Serna, Wpg	0	20	8	4	48
x-Richardson, Mtl	7	2	0	0	44
Lewis, Cal	7	0	0	0	42
McDaniel, Ham	7	0	0	0	42

x — scored two-point convert

NFL

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

EAST

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
N.Y. Jets	5	1	0	.833	159	101
New England	4	1	0	.800	154	116
Miami	3	2	0	.600	89	112
Buffalo	0	5	0	.000	87	161

SOUTH

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Houston	4	2	0	.667	153	167
Indianapolis	4	2	0	.667	163	125
Tennessee	4	2	0	.667	162	98
Jacksonville	3	3	0	.500	110	167

NORTH

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Pittsburgh	4	1	0	.800	114	60
Baltimore	4	2	0	.667	112	95
Cincinnati	2	3	0	.400	100	102
Cleveland	1	5	0	.167	88	125

WEST

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Kansas City	3	2	0	.600	108	92
Oakland	2	4	0	.333	120	151
Denver	2	4	0	.333	124	140
San Diego	2	4	0	.333	157	126

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

EAST

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
N.Y. Giants	4	2	0	.667	134	118
Philadelphia	4	2	0	.667	153	120
Washington	3	3	0	.500	113	119
Dallas	1	4	0	.200	102	111

SOUTH

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Atlanta	4	2	0	.667	130	101
New Orleans	4	2	0	.667	130	108
Tampa Bay	3	2	0	.600	80	111
Carolina	0	5	0	.000	52	110

NORTH

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Chicago	4	2	0	.667	112	97
Green Bay	3	3	0	.500	139	112
Minnesota	2	3	0	.400	87	88
Detroit	1	5	0	.167	146	140

WEST

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Arizona	3	2	0	.600	88	138
Seattle	3	2	0	.600	98	97
St. Louis	3	3	0	.500	103	113
San Francisco	1	5	0	.167	93	139

WEEK SIX
Byes: Arizona, Buffalo, Carolina, Cincinnati
Monday's result
Tennessee 30 Jacksonville 3
WEEK SEVEN
Byes: Detroit, Houston, Indianapolis, N.Y. Jets
Sunday's games
Buffalo at Baltimore, 1 p.m.
Washington at Chicago, 1 p.m.
Cincinnati at Atlanta, 1 p.m.
Philadelphia at Tennessee, 1 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Miami, 1 p.m.
St. Louis at Tampa Bay, 1 p.m.
Cleveland at New Orleans, 1 p.m.
Jacksonville at Kansas City, 1 p.m.
San Francisco at Carolina, 1 p.m.
Arizona at Seattle, 4:05 p.m.
Oakland at Denver, 4:15 p.m.
New England at San Diego, 4:15 p.m.
Minnesota at Green Bay, 8:20 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 25
N.Y. Giants at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.

TENNIS

ATP IF STOCKHOLM OPEN

At Stockholm, Sweden
Singles — First Round
Florian Mayer, Germany, def. Feliciano Lopez (6), Spain, 6-2, 6-2.
James Blake, U.S., def. Thomaz Bellucci (7), Brazil, 3-6, 6-4, 6-4.
Ivan Dodig, Croatia, def. Tommy Robredo (8), Spain, 6-3, 6-2.
Taylor Dent, U.S., def. Michal Przysiezny, Poland, 6-2, retired.
Benjamin Becker, Germany, def. Thomas Schoorel, Netherlands, 6-3, 6-0.
Arnaud Clement, France, def. Olivier Rochus, Belgium, 6-0, 6-4.
Robin Haase, Netherlands, def. Filip Prpic, Sweden, 7-6 (4), 3-6, 6-4.

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MLS boss sings TFC's praises

Commissioner credits league's growth and reputation to success of its Toronto expansion team ◐ Team held up as example for rest of MLS

"The opposite of love isn't hate, it's indifference. Part of the benefit of this is the fact that people care."

DON GARBER OFFERS HIS TAKE ON RECENT PROTESTS BY TFC FANS. FANS ARE UPSET BY INCREASES TO TICKET PRICES AND THE TEAM'S POOR RESULTS.

A casual observer might think Toronto FC is a franchise on the decline.

Out of the playoffs, the team is set to close out another disappointing season. Passionate fan groups like the Red Patch Boys have been protesting instead of cheering. And the search is still on for a new coach and general manager after a recent housecleaning.

Yet the man in charge of Major League Soccer doesn't seem concerned. In fact, commissioner Don Garber is downright glowing in his praise of the franchise and its rabid fan base.

"MLS is where it is today because of the success of Toronto FC," Garber said yesterday. "I have absolutely no doubt that we would not be in the position we are, which is a respected and credible, growing professional sports league ... without the success of TFC."

Off the field, Toronto FC appears to have it all.

Sellouts are the norm at BMO Field, the team's followers are some of the most fervent in the country and deep-pocketed Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment is running the show.

The business model is so strong that Garber said he has brought owners, investors and others to the city for a first-hand look at how the franchise operates.

"I can't tell you how many times we brought people up here," he said.

Garber went so far as to call the club "a model franchise."

"This is a successful market that has helped truly grow the credibility of this league globally," he said. "When we sit and talk about a U.S. World Cup bid (in 2022), we're going to sit and talk about why America is a soccer nation. And we're showing pictures of BMO Field."

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Soccer. Showdown

▶ AC Milan's Andrea Pirlo tackles Cristiano Ronaldo.

ANDRES KUDACKI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Big win for Real Madrid

Real Madrid passed an early test of its Champions League credentials under Jose Mourinho by defeating AC Milan, while Chelsea, Arsenal and Bayern Munich also notched up their third successive victories yesterday to close in on the knockout phase. Cristiano Ronaldo scored from a free kick then set up Mesut Oezil's goal inside 15 minutes as nine-time winner Madrid asserted its authority with a 2-0 win over seven-time champion Milan in a showdown of the contest's two most successful clubs.

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Opinion

ADAM PROTEAU
THE HOCKEY NEWS

SWAGGER RETURNING TO MAPLE LEAFS

Whether or not the Maple Leafs can sustain the torrid pace they've began the 2010-11 regular season on doesn't really matter.

Of course, after Toronto's 0-7-1 start to last season, it was crucial that the Leafs kicked off this year on a far better note. But even if the Blue & White had gotten out to a middling 2-2 start, there is still much more reason for optimism among Buds fans than at any point since the 2004-05 lockout season.

Why? Because this edition of the Leafs carries with it a swagger that hasn't been around in Toronto since Doug Gilmour and Curtis Joseph were restoring dignity to a dilapidated franchise in the early '90s.

And that swagger hasn't bubbled up by accident; Leafs management has known for some time now that the organization has needed a confidence injection in the worst way, which is one of the main reasons why GM Brian Burke pulled the trigger last January on the trade for Dion Phaneuf.

"That's something I've noticed since I've been in Toronto — there really isn't the swagger," head coach Ron Wilson told The Hockey News in July.

"And swagger is the best word to use; it's not overconfidence, it's believing in what you're doing.

"You can always tell a good team that way. Even the way good teams step on the ice for warmup is different — you look over and say, 'Oh boy, that team's got a swagger.' And Dion has always had that, which fits in with what (Burke) and I would like to see on our team from top to bottom."

"The Buds believing in themselves is absolutely essential to turning around a dressing room atmosphere that had become extremely comfortable even in the face of extreme unproductiveness."

Indeed, that swagger is being seen throughout the Leafs' lineup right now.

It may prove to be the type of misplaced swagger you see on early American Idol auditions; however, the Buds believing in themselves is absolutely essential to turning around a dressing room atmosphere that had become extremely comfortable even in the face of extreme unproductiveness.

This Leafs team might not be in the playoffs by season's end.

But nothing positive could happen without the base of confidence they've finally built.

Pens' Staal practising

Penguins forward Jordan Staal is practising with the team for the first time since May.

Staal was unable to work out all summer because of recurring infections in his right foot that developed after a tendon was severed during a second-round playoff game against Montreal. The infections required multiple operations to remove tissue and forced Staal to remain off his skates for nearly five months. Staal resumed skating last week, when the team said he needed additional conditioning work and practising before he could play again. The Penguins haven't set a timetable for his return.

Staal was a finalist last season for the Selke Trophy, given to the NHL's best two-way defenceman.

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- Subaru adds more oomph to the WRX while keeping up excellent handling
- A sportier take on the standard family ride
- Subaru blurs line between STi and standard WRX

▶ The 2011 Subaru WRX comes in a four-door sedan and five-door hatch.

Subaru's WRX revs up family sedan market

PETER BLEAKNEY
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA

For 2011, Subaru has given its sporty WRX a visual and dynamic shot in the arm, bringing it closer in line with its bigger bro, the 305 hp WRX STi.

Since getting bumped to 265 hp in 2009, the all-wheel-drive WRX has been nothing short of an understated rocket, but its underpinnings have erred on the soft side. Now both four-door sedan ($32,495) and five-door hatch ($33,395) get the STi's wide-body treatment. This goes a long way in kicking the WRX up a few rungs on the look-at-me ladder. About the only people not thrilled with this would be current STi owners — just ask my friend Steve.

A wider track for both front and rear wheels helps fill the bulging haunches as do wider 17-inch performance tires — up from 225 mm to 235 mm. Factor in stiffer rear subframe bushings and the 2011 WRX is a sharper road tool. The chassis responds quickly to inputs from the nicely weighted steering, there is less body roll than before yet the ride remains compliant. The symmetrical all-wheel-drive is set to a 50:50 front to rear split — Subaru saves the fancy adjustable bias for the STi.

The WRX comes only as a five-speed manual. Purists rejoice. It's a good one too, featuring positive shifts and progressive clutch take up. Yes, a six-speed would be nice (again, saved for the STi) but this flat-four has a pretty broad torque spectrum (244 lb.-ft. at 4000 r.p.m.) so you're rarely caught flat footed. Fans of Subaru's off-beat exhaust growl will be happy as this audio signature is front and centre when the Nike hits the firewall. And with a zero-100 km/h time of 5.4 seconds, this puppy flies.

The 2011 WRX gets revised interior trim, standard Bluetooth with steering wheel controls, USB media interface, freshened gauge cluster, new 17-inch wheels, one touch up/down driver's window and quad tailpipes. My tester featured the $3000 Limited Package that adds leather, fog lights, power sunroof and Sirius satellite radio with a 3-month subscription. In this time of the homogenized family sedan, the 2011 Subaru WRX makes for an intriguing option. Well priced, comfortable, quite roomy and hugely entertaining, this all-wheel-drive sedan comes fully equipped with buckets of character.

5 drive

Drive in brief

It's already exciting enough imagining the Audi A1 on the road, but you could be driving an electric version in the next few years.

Audi is testing 20 prototypes of an all-electric Audi A1 with a top speed of 81mph, on the roads of Munich by mid-2011 and 200 powering stations delivering "green electricity" will be built. It won't be the first Audi EV into production, that will be the sports car concept first shown at the 2009 Frankfurt Show, set for a late-2012 launch. METRO

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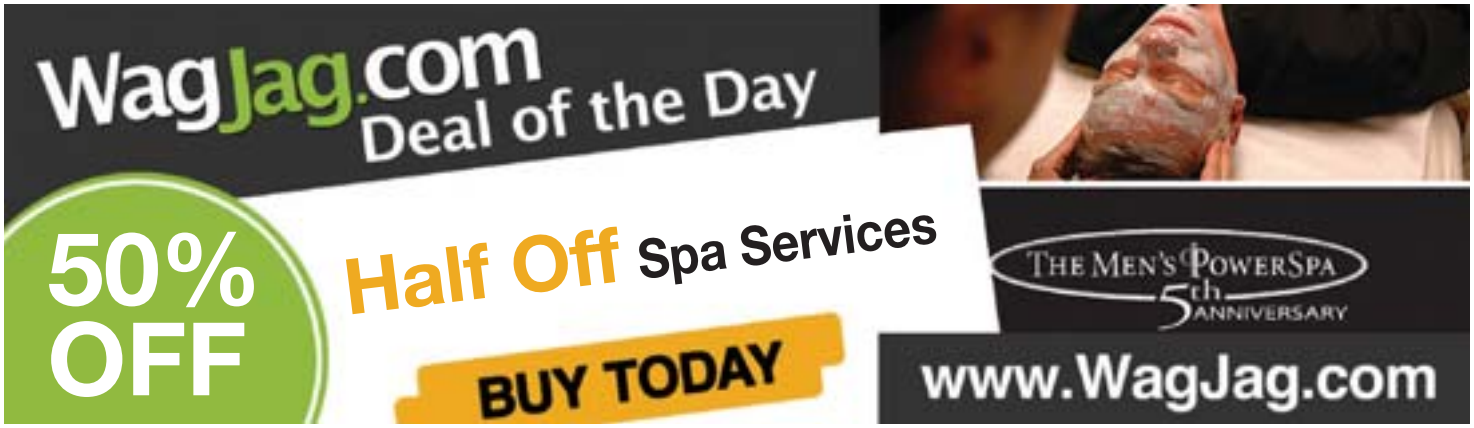

HYBRIDS: LOOKING FOR A FEW MORE BUYERS

Auto Pilot
MIKE GOETZ
DRIVE@METROEWS.CA

▶ The ad campaigns for the Hyundai Sonata Hybrid is fun, but at the end of the day car buyers are opting to keep the green in their wallet rather than pay a premium for a car that has a smaller carbon footprint.

Hybrids have arrived, yes?

Well, me thinks "yes" and "no." Hybrid technology has certainly arrived.

They have proven to be more reliable and durable than originally perceived.

And the technology keeps getting better. Consider the just-introduced 2011 Hyundai Sonata Hybrid, which flaunts the world's first automotive application of a lithium polymer battery pack (developed with its battery partner, and fellow Korean company, LG Chem).

Their advantages over the nickel metal hydride battery packs in other midsize hybrids are many: more efficient; more compact; lighter; better cooling properties (requiring only air cooling system, instead of heavier liquid cooling).

Unlike nickel metal hydride cells, or even lithium ion cells used in computers, which are cylindrical in shape, lithium polymer cells have a flat rectangle shape like a thin stack of paper. Seventy two of these rectangle cells are wired in series to produce a 1.4 kilowatt-hour battery back weighing less than 100 pounds.

And I'm sure you've seen the advertising campaign for the Sonata Hybrid, which is on current and heavy rotation on television.

It makes much of the fact that the commercial was made with a "zero carbon footprint."

The Sonata Hybrid doesn't arrive in Canada until January — still a few months away.

How many of these technology and fuel-efficient wonders does Hyundai expect to sell each in 2011, and every year after that? About 300 to 500.

That seems like a small number, eh? But it corresponds to how hybrids variants currently fare in the overall midsize segment.

Currently Camry, Fusion, Malibu, and Altima, are all available with hybrid versions, where they comprise only three per cent of overall midsize sales. (Four-cylinder midsizers dominate with a 71 per cent share, while six-cylinder midsizers account for the remaining 26 per cent).

The line on why they remain a niche product is that fuel prices are too low — that the rationale for purchase is based solely on calculations on how a hybrid's higher initial costs will be offset by its lower fuel costs over the ownership period.

What this says to me is that buyers will always pay a premium for style, power, luxury, brand, etc., but not, apparently, for the ability make a smaller carbon footprint. At least not yet.

Also at work, I think, are fears about any vehicle with an expensive-to-replace battery.

Whatever the case, hybrids are still lurking in that middle ground, between "glad to meet you" and "let's do lunch."

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Suzuki's fun family ride

- XL7 offered real off-road capability, size and value
- Should hold up as a solid vehicle for years to come

SECOND GEAR

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA

Suzuki is a small brand that's huge on fun, recreation and creating some of the most popular machines in the enthusiast off-road community. With a product portfolio including cars, 4x4's and an arsenal of recreational vehicles, the Japanese brand has earned a loyal following of repeat shoppers.

The Suzuki XL7 was a family-ready 4x4 model that offered reasonable pricing and a rarity in the family SUV marketplace: real-world off-road prowess. Packed with a transfer-case 4x4 system, low-range gearing and a tough body-on-frame construction, it was ideal for shoppers after top levels of confidence on the road less travelled. Many of XL7's owners say it impressed as an all-around performer that's happy to tow a boat or tackle a trail.

Under the hood, look for a 2.7-liter V6 engine with 170 to 185 horsepower, depending on the year in question. Earlier models in the 2001 to 2006 generation got a five-speed manual transmission as standard, while a four or five-speed automatic was otherwise available or standard depending on the year.

The specs

- **MODEL** 2001 to 2006 Suzuki XL7
- **VEHICLE TYPE** 4x4 SUV
- **APPROXIMATE USED PRICE RANGE** $4,000 to $12,000

What owners like

Overall value, pricing, the manual-shift transfer case, the availability of a manual transmission and seven-passenger seating were some of the most common praise-points from existing XL7owners. Ride quality, interior comfort, visibility and all-surface traction were highly rated by owners, too.

What owners hate

Common gripes are relatively scarce, and centre around awkward placement of some interior controls and the lack of a rear window release to open it separately of the tailgate. Finally, as with virtually any SUV, most drivers wish for better mileage.

Common issues

Have the underside inspected for signs of excessive rust, scraping, dents or other damaged caused by careless off-roading. A thorough underbody inspection by a mechanic can also quickly reveal issues with chassis or suspension components, as well as fluid leaks that could indicate larger problems. Ensure the four-wheel drive transfer case system can engage and disengage all 4x4 modes as expected, too.

Use a flashlight to inspect for signs of oil leaking down the front or side of the engine. This may indicate a variety of gasket-related problems that could be pricey to fix.

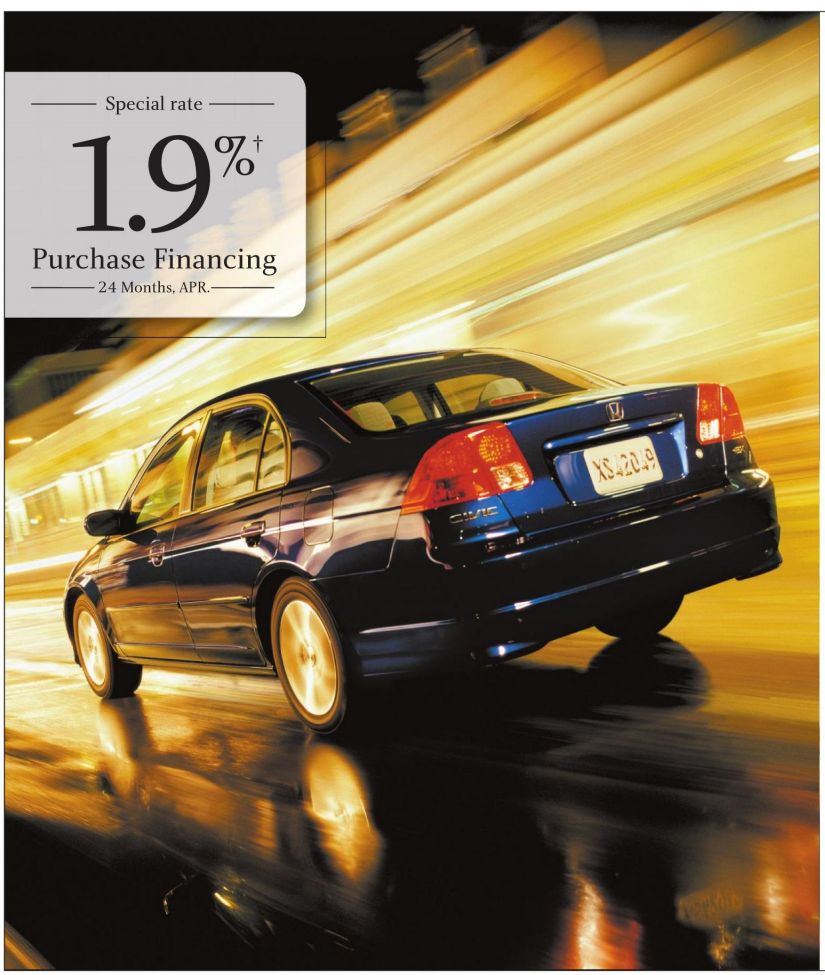
Listen to the engine idle, and remember that any excessive grinding or clicking sounds could be caused by a bad timing chain tensioner, which is another pricey repair. The latter two issues seem to affect earlier XL7 models only, but are still worth checking into.

Other checks should include the air conditioner, all cabin electronics, all windows and door latches, and the vehicle's tires and brakes.

The verdict

End of the day, an affordable used XL7 that passes all pre-purchase inspections should deliver high-capability, high-value and worry-free travels for years to come.

▶ The 2001-2006 Suzuki XL7 comes in a five-speed manual and a four or five-speed automatic.



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with **No Extra Charge Winter Safety Package**

Own for only
$162† @ 0% APR
Twice a month financed over 60 months
with $0 down payment.
Offer excludes taxes
Includes
Sport Appearance Package
No Extra Charge Heated Seats

2011 ESCAPE XLT AUTO
with **No Extra Charge Winter Safety Package**

Own for only
$26,999*
Offer excludes taxes
Or purchase finance with
0% APR for up to 48† months

ELIGIBLE CONSUMERS CAN RECEIVE
Recycle your Ride Incentive ..... $2,000▼
Costco Member Incentive ..... $1,000■

SEL model shown

2011 FIESTA S
with **No Extra Charge Winter Safety Package**

Starting from
$14,379*
Offer excludes taxes
Or purchase finance other Fiesta models with
3.99% APR for up to 60† months

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Only Ford lets you recycle your **2003 or older** vehicle and get up to **$3,300**▼ towards most new Ford vehicles.

This offer is in addition to incentives currently offered when combined with the $300 available from the Retire Your Ride program, funded by the Government of Canada on qualifying vehicles of model year 1995 or older. Incentives range from $1000 to $3000. Visit ford.ca for details.

In Partnership with Summerhill IMPACT, Car Heaven, Retire Your Ride Canada's Vehicle Recycling Program

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COSTCO WHOLESALE **$1,000 OFF**■

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Everything you want is right here, right now only at your Toronto Area Ford store or visit TorontoFordDealers.ca today.

Drive one.

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Dealer may sell or lease for less. Limited time offers. Offers may be cancelled at any time without notice. See your Ford Dealer for complete details or call the Ford Customer Relationship Centre at 1-800-565-3673. *Purchase a new 2011 Ford Fiesta S/Fusion SE/Escape XLT I4 Automatic for $14,379/$24,679/$26,999 after Total Manufacturer Rebate of $0*/$0/$0 deducted. Taxes payable on full amount of purchase price after Manufacturer Rebate has been deducted. Vehicles shown are 2011 Fiesta SEL Sedan for $19,679 after Total Manufacturer Rebate of $0 deducted. Offers include Freight, Air Tax and the Stewardship Ontario Environmental Fee but exclude administration and registration fees of up to $799, fuel fill charge of up to $120 and applicable taxes. All prices are based on Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price. †Receive 0% APR purchase financing on new 2011 Ford Fusion (excluding S)/Edge (excluding SE)/Escape (excluding I4 Manual)/Focus (excluding S)/Fiesta (excluding S) for up to 60 months. Example: $20,000 at 0% APR for 60 months equals 120 bi-weekly payments of $166.67. Cost of borrowing is $0. Offer is not available on Ford Transit Connect, Ford E-Series Cutaway/Chassis, Ford F-650/750 Super Duty, Ford Transit, Ford Transit Connect Wagon, Ford Transit Cargo Van, Ford Transit Wagon, Ford Transit Crew Van, Ford Transit Connect Cargo Van, Ford Transit Connect Wagon XL, Ford Transit Connect Cargo Van XL, Ford Transit Connect Wagon XLT, Ford Transit Connect Cargo Van XLT, Ford Transit Connect Wagon Titanium, Ford Transit Connect Cargo Van Titanium, Ford Transit Connect Electric, Ford Transit Connect Wagon Electric, Ford Transit Connect Cargo Van Electric, Ford Transit Connect Wagon XL Electric, Ford Transit Connect Cargo Van XL Electric, Ford Transit Connect Wagon XLT Electric, Ford Transit Connect Cargo Van XLT Electric, Ford Transit Connect Wagon Titanium Electric, Ford Transit Connect Cargo Van Titanium Electric, Ford Ranger, Shelby GT500, F-150 Raptor, F-650/F-750 (each an "Eligible Vehicle"). This offer is not available on the purchase or lease of a new 2010/2011 Ford or Lincoln (excluding Fiesta, Focus, Ranger, Shelby GT500, F-150 Raptor, F-650/F-750) (each an "Eligible Vehicle"). This offer is not combinable with any CPA, GPC, Daily Rental incentives, Commercial Connection Program, or the Commercial Fleet Incentive Program (CFIP). Customer may have financed or leased their current vehicle through any source. Customer must take delivery from dealer stock by November 30, 2011. Dealer may sell or lease for less. Limited time offers. Offers may be cancelled at any time without notice. See your Ford Dealer for complete details or call the Ford Customer Relationship Centre at 1-800-565-3673. *Purchase a new 2011 Ford Fiesta S/Fusion SE/Escape XLT I4 Automatic for $14,379/$24,679/$26,999 after Total Manufacturer Rebate of $0*/$0/$0 deducted. Taxes payable on full amount of purchase price after Manufacturer Rebate has been deducted. 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Offer is not available on Ford Transit, Ford Transit Connect, Ford E-Series Cutaway/Chassis, Ford F-650/750 Super Duty, Ford Transit Wagon, Ford Transit Cargo Van, Ford Transit Crew Van, Ford Transit Connect Wagon, Ford Transit Connect Cargo Van, Ford Transit Connect Wagon XL, Ford Transit Connect Cargo Van XL, Ford Transit Connect Wagon XLT, Ford Transit Connect Cargo Van XLT, Ford Transit Connect Wagon Titanium, Ford Transit Connect Cargo Van Titanium, Ford Transit Connect Electric, Ford Transit Connect Wagon Electric, Ford Transit Connect Cargo Van Electric, Ford Transit Connect Wagon XL Electric, Ford Transit Connect Cargo Van XL Electric, Ford Transit Connect Wagon XLT Electric, Ford Transit Connect Cargo Van XLT Electric, Ford Transit Connect Wagon Titanium Electric, Ford Transit Connect Cargo Van Titanium Electric, Ford Ranger, Shelby GT500, F-150 Raptor, F-650/F-750 (each an "Eligible Vehicle"). 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This offer is not applicable to any Fleet (other than small fleets with an eligible FIN) or Government delivery and not combinable with CPA, GPC, CFIP or Daily Rental Allowances. Some conditions apply. See Dealer for details. Vehicle handling characteristics, tire load index and speed rating may not be the same as factory supplied all season tires. Winter tires are meant to be operated during winter conditions and may require a higher cold inflation pressure than all season tires. Consult your Owner Guide for more information. Offer ends November 30, 2011. ***Receive a $1,000 Costco Member Incentive when you purchase or lease a new 2011 Ford Fiesta (excluding S), Focus (excluding S), Fusion (excluding S), Mustang (excluding Value Leader and Shelby GT500), Transit Connect, Ranger (excluding XL), $2,000 CDN Taurus (excluding SE), Escape (excluding XLT I4 Manual), Edge (excluding SE), Flex (excluding SE), Explorer (excluding Base models), Sport Trac], or $3,000 CDN [F150 (excluding Raptor and 2011 Regular Cab XL 4x2), F250-550, E-Series, Expedition] (each an "Eligible Vehicle"). Rebate amount may be used as a down payment or received as cheque from Ford, but not both. Taxes payable before Rebate amount is deducted. PPR Rebates are available to residents of Canada only excluding Northwest Territories, Yukon Territory, and Nunavut. Eligible Vehicle must be purchased, leased, or factory ordered during the Program Period to qualify for a Rebate. Rebates can be used in conjunction with most retail consumer offers made available by Ford at either the time of factory order or delivery, but not both. Dealer may sell or lease for less. Limited time offer, see dealer for details or call the Ford Customer Relationship Centre at 1-800-565-3673. ▼Receive $2,000 Recycle Your Ride Incentive when you purchase or lease a new 2011 Ford Fiesta, Focus, Fusion, Escape, Edge, Flex, Explorer, Mustang, Transit Connect, Ranger, Taurus, F-150, F-250, F-350, F-450, F-550, E-Series, Expedition, Sport Trac or Super Duty. Customer must turn in a 1995 model year or older vehicle in running condition (able to start and move) which has been properly registered and insured for the last 6 months (12 months in B.C.) to an authorized recycler. To qualify for the "Car Heaven Program", customer must turn in a 2003 model year or older vehicle in running condition which has been registered and insured for the last 6 months to an authorized recycler. If a customer qualifies for Car Heaven or Retire Your Ride, Ford of Canada ("Ford") will provide an additional Rebate, with the purchase or lease of an eligible new 2010/2011 Ford vehicle, in the amount of $1,000 CDN [Focus (excluding S), Fusion (excluding S), Mustang (excluding Value Leader and Shelby GT500), Transit Connect, Ranger (excluding XL)], $2,000 CDN [Taurus (excluding SE), Escape (excluding XLT I4 Manual), Edge (excluding SE), Flex (excluding SE), Explorer (excluding Base models), Sport Trac], or $3,000 CDN [F150 (excluding Raptor and 2011 Regular Cab XL 4x2), F250-550, E-Series, Expedition] (each an "Eligible Vehicle"). Rebate amount may be used as a down payment or received as cheque from Ford, but not both. Taxes payable before Rebate amount is deducted. PPR Rebates are available to residents of Canada only excluding Northwest Territories, Yukon Territory, and Nunavut. 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4MATIC is keeping things simple

Mercedes-Benz's all-wheel system uses the brains of the car ◐ Response speed increased

▶ Mercedes-Benz's Christopher Goczan says there is a "simplicity" to the 4MATIC systems.

DRIVING FORCE

JAMES MCINTOSH
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA

Systems that send power to all four wheels certainly aren't new, but in recent years they've made considerable progress in technology. Such is the case with the latest version of Mercedes-Benz's 4MATIC all-wheel system, first seen in 2007 on the S-Class, and now available on the C-, E- and CL-Class.

"What makes this generation special, versus what else is out there, is the simplicity of the system," says Christopher Goczan, product planning manager for Mercedes-Benz Canada. "It does away with the traditional differential locks, and uses the brains of the car to move torque around."

The 4MATIC system works with the car's traction and electronic stability control systems, monitoring the wheels to determine which ones are getting the most traction. The system sends 55 per cent of torque to the rear axle in normal driving conditions, but if necessary, it can deliver full power to just one wheel in order to help the driver maintain control.

"You're talking about a system that measures in milliseconds," Goczan says. "In that millisecond that it detects you're getting traction again, it will let off. It would never let you lose control of the vehicle."

Detecting within milliseconds makes the 4MATIC system faster than a mechanical system, which can have a slight lag between the time it perceives slippage and then reacts to it. It also helps make the Mercedes-Benz system smaller and lighter: it weighs only 70 kg, compared to 120 kg for the older Mercedes system it replaces. Since more weight means more fuel, all-wheel systems tend to get poorer mileage, but the lighter system creates less of a fuel consumption penalty — only about 0.7 L/100 km compared with an equivalent rear-wheel-drive system, Goczan says.

Its smaller size also means more interior space: unlike many all-wheel systems, which protrude into the floor pan with a resulting loss of foot room for the front-seat passenger, cars equipped with the new 4MATIC system look no different inside than their rear-wheel siblings.

Goczan says that with many all-wheel systems, the driver can sometimes feel the system binding. "In tight areas, you can really feel that the driveline is doing something different, and it's not feeling natural," he says. "Our approach is that it has to be seamless, and that's the heart of the system. The traction and stability control are monitoring constantly so they can vary the mechanical impulses, and they control them so well that essentially, the driver never knows what's really happening. You don't know how much 4MATIC is doing in rain or snow. It's simplicity in the driving experience."

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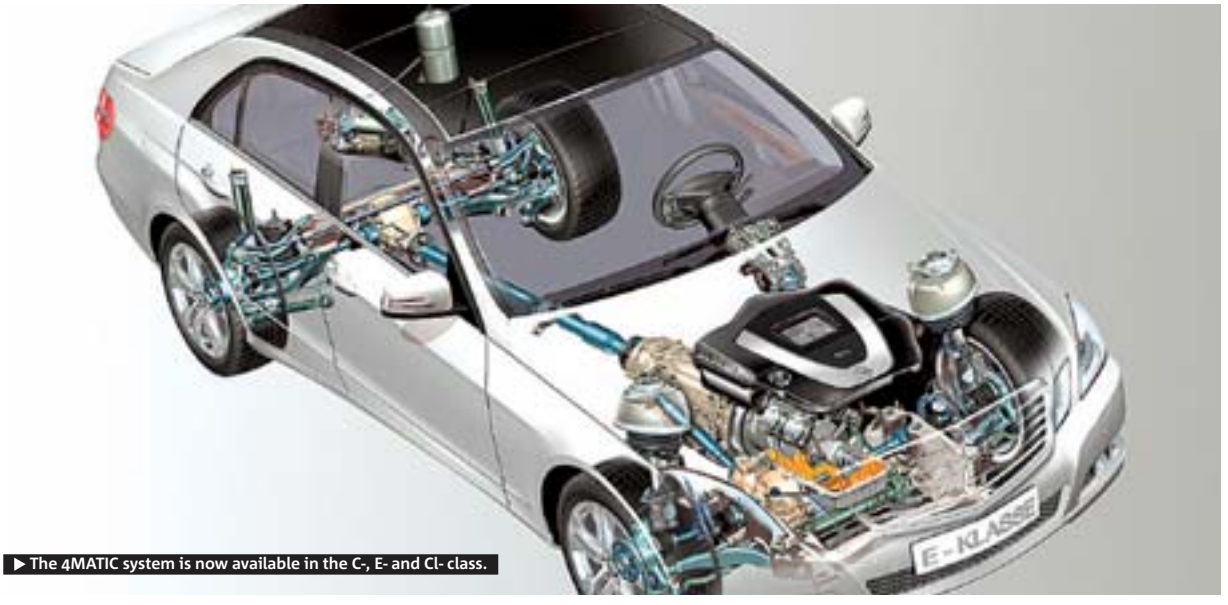

▶ The 4MATIC system is now available in the C-, E- and Cl- class.

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*Savings of up to $6000/$3500 for 2010 Highlander/2010 Venza/2010 Tacoma/2010 Tundra CrewMax & 2010 RAV4/2010 Corolla/2010 Matrix/2010 Yaris is comprised of Cash Customer Incentive and Customer Incentive. $500/$1500/$1000to$2000/$250to$1250/$500to$1500 Customer Incentive offer valid on retail delivery of new 2010 Tacoma/2010 Tundra/2010 Corolla/2010 Matrix/2010 Yaris, when leased, financed or purchased from an Ontario Toyota dealership. Vehicle must be registered and delivered between October 1 and October 31, 2010. Cash Customer Incentive is available on a new 2010 Highlander -$3000, 2010 Venza -$2500, 2010 Tacoma -$1000,2010 Tundra excluding CrewMax/CrewMax - $2500/$4500, 2010 RAV4 4 Cyl/V6/V6 Ltd - $2500/$3000/$3500, 2010 Corolla CE/S & LE/XRS - $1000/$1500/$2000, 2010 Matrix Base5m/Base/XR/XRS - $750/$1750/$2250/$2750, 2010 Yaris4DR 5M/ Yaris4DR &HB -$500/$1500 for all Toyota retail customer except customers who lease or purchase finance through Toyota Financial Services at a special rate of interest offered by Toyota as part of a low rate interest program. Advertised lease and finance rates are special rates. Offer valid to retail customers (excluding fleet sales) when purchased from an Ontario Toyota dealership. Vehicle must be purchased, registered and delivered by October 31, 2010. Cash customer incentive takes place at time of delivery and will apply after taxes have been charged on the full amount of negotiated price. Offers are valid between October 1 and October 31, 2010 and are subject to change without notice. Please see your participating Toyota Dealer for full details.

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2011 Scion xB

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2011 Scion xD

Live large - in a small space. That's just one of the contradictions that defy convention and define the **2011 Scion xD**. Call it the x-factor. A menacing look melded to a 128 hp, 1.8L engine strikes fear into the hearts of our sub-compact competition. Money-in-your-pocket fuel economy coupled with pressed-to-the-seat performance. An extensive list of standard features - including a dedicated iPod port that provides power and stereo head unit control - at an extremely affordable price. And, of course, the ability to accessorize to the max.

2011 Scion tC

The sports coupe. The 2011 Scion tC brings tight styling and upscale features—including a Panorama Power Moonroof to the sport compact scene. It features a highly tunable powertrain combined with athletic handling brought together in one affordable package. Like every Scion, the 2011 tC comes with a well-equipped mono spec along with a wide array of styling and performance upgrades to truly make it your own.

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The Wheel Deal

TODD BOURGON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, TORONTO AUTOMOBILE DEALERS ASSOCIATION
TADA@METRONEWS.CA

GETTING TO KNOW TADA

Welcome to the first of a monthly series called The Wheel Deal. My name is Todd Bourgon and I am the Executive Director of the Toronto Automobile Dealers Association (TADA).

You may not be aware of what the TADA is as an organization. The TADA is a GTA-based association that represents and provides member services to 340 new car franchise dealers — regardless of their manufacturer. The association itself is one of the oldest trade associations in North America, having been established more than 102 years ago.

An interesting fact about the 340 members of the TADA is that they collectively sell approx 60 per cent of all the new cars and light trucks sold in Ontario.

In addition to this, the TADA proudly owns and operates one of Canada's largest consumer shows every February — namely the Canadian International Autoshow. We also have a strong relationship with Ronald McDonald House of Toronto, where a new home is currently being constructed that will be the largest of its kind in the world.

The TADA support of RMH will be recognized in the new home with the naming of the TADA Gift of Life Wing.

Now that you know a little bit about us, and have a sense of our community involvement, I would like to invite you to participate in this column.

The content for this feature will be generated from the questions that you as readers have about anything related to automotive transportation.

It can be about cars, insurance, repairs, anything that you would like an answer to. I will than talk to an industry expert about your particular question, and publish a response in this column. You can reach me at tada@metronews.ca, I look forward to answering your questions.

Gifts for Mercedes lovers

Mercedes' website is offering a one-stop-shop for gifts for car lovers, with two new collections, one offering more practical and sporty clothes and accessories, the other offering more fashionable goods.

Highlights include a soft beige leather handbag ($282) and a mini penknife with swarovski crystals ($22). mercedes-benz.ca

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A GOOD PROP CARRIER

My Drive

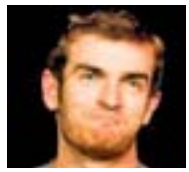
HEATHER BUCHAN
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA

Why the Grand Am: My dad bought it for himself and I just ended up driving it all the time and then I started paying insurance for it and paying more money for it and then one day I paid for half the car and then on my following birthday he gave it to me.

What do you love most about it? Apart from the awesome wing on the back, I love every bit of it equally. I'm not biased towards any part of her.

Have you taken any road trips in her? The Riot travels as a troupe to different venues around Ontario. We've also driven (the Grand Am) to Halifax and Montreal to do some stuff.

Meet the driver



- **WHO IS HE** Toronto-based comedian Christian Smith is one-fifth of the award-winning comedy troupe The Riot.
- **WHAT HE DRIVES** A "stunning" silver 2004 Pontiac Grand Am with a charcoal interior.

She's kind of like our tour bus. And we load the car up with props when we have shows around Toronto.

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HURRY, OFFERS END OCTOBER 31ST, 2010!!!
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†0% APR Purchase Financing is available on all new 2010 Mazda vehicles. Based on a representative agreement using an offered pricing of $17,390/$29,690/$22,290/$24,890 for the new 2010 Mazda3 GX (D4XS50AA00)/2010 Mazda CX-7 GX (PVXY80AA00)/2010 Mazda5 GS (E6SD50AA00)/2010 Mazda6 GS-I4 (G4SY60AA00) with a financed amount of $15,000/$25,000/$20,000/$20,000, the cost of borrowing for a 60/60/72/72-month term is $0, monthly payment is $250.00/$416.67/$277.77/$277.77, total finance obligation is $15,000/$25,000/$20,000/$20,000. **Offered Pricing for new 2010 Mazda3 GX (D4XS50AA00)/2010 Mazda CX-7 GX (PVXY80AA00)/2010 Mazda5 GS (E6SD50AA00)/2010 Mazda6 GS-I4 (G4SY60AA00) is $17,390/ $29,690/$22,290/$24,890. All offers include freight/P.D.E. and fees. Offers exclude HST. ††Visa Gift Card offer is valid on retail purchases of new 2010 models purchased between October 6 and October 31, 2010. Customer can choose to receive a $750/$1,250/$1,000/ $1,000/$1,000/$1,000 /$1,000 Mazda Visa Prepaid Card for the 2010 Mazda5/Mazda6/CX-7/CX-9/MX-5/RX-8/MAZDASPEED3 (to be mailed to customer in December 2010) or an immediate $750/$1,250/$1,000 /$1,000 /$1,000/$1,000/$1,000 credit to be applied against their vehicle purchase price. See your dealer for program details. Offer does not apply to the 2010 Mazda3 Sedan/Sport, Tribute and B-Series Truck. Cash rebates are applicable on all 2010 models only and rebate amounts would differ with the models. *$8,000 Cash rebate is applicable on the 2010 Mazda RX8. Cash Rebates cannot be combined with the special finance offers. Graduate rebate is applicable on the 2010 Mazda models and would vary from model to model – conditions apply. Mazda Owners loyalty program is applicable to select Mazda existing customers – conditions apply 2010 Mazda3/Mazda3 Sport/Mazda CX-7/Mazda5/Mazda6 models tested with standard side-impact air bags (SABs). U.S. Government star ratings are part of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA's) New Car Assessment Program (www.safercar.gov). Based on Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. *Visa Int./Lic. user The Bank of Nove Scotia. Offers available from October 6, 2010 until October 31, 2010. Licence, insurance and HST excluded. Lease and Finance on approved credit for qualified customers only. Dealer may sell for less. Dealer order may be necessary. Visit Yorkdale Dufferin Mazda for complete details.

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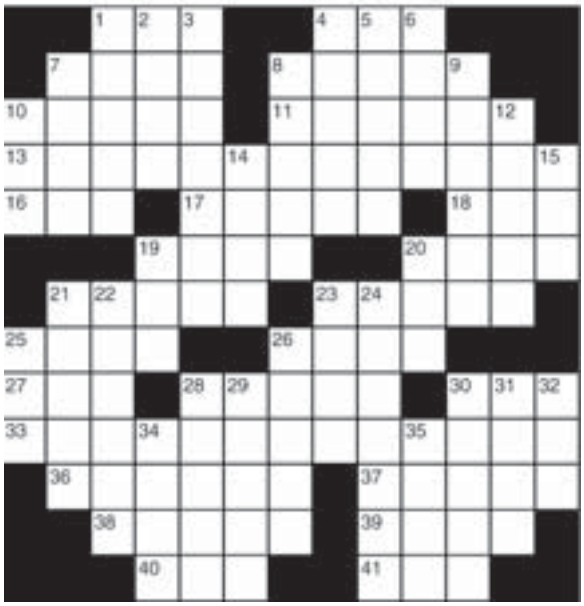
Crossword



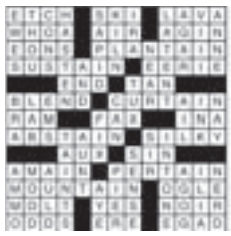
Across

1 Mid-June honoree
4 Mid-May honoree
7 Took the trolley
8 Was concerned
10 Hawkeye
11 Sports venues
13 1- and 4-Across, usually
16 Snoop
17 All but one in a million?
18 Favorite
19 Take out of context?
20 Entreaty
21 Prudent
23 Armada
25 PBS science show
26 Tea time, perhaps
27 Lawyers' org.
28 Throw
30 Winter ailment
33 13-Across, initially
36 Graduates
37 Man of morals?
38 Hits hard
39 Heart of the matter
40 Before
41 Away from WSW

Down

1 Bride's bounty
2 Hebrew month
3 Inhabitant
4 — Polo
5 Sandwich treats
6 Carte
7 Bellow
8 Band of fighters
9 Spotted horse
10 Mischief-maker
12 Winter forecast
14 Slithery
15 Greek vowel
19 Modern-day evidence
20 Apiece
21 Deadly snake
22 Makes use (of)
23 Loving
24 Suitcases
25 Apprehend
26 The end
28 Leg bone
29 "Blue Sky" Oscar winner Jessica
30 "Cabaret" director Bob
31 Swag
32 Ref
34 "Psych" actor Hill
35 Check

▶ Yesterday's answer



Sudoku

7								1
5			2		6			9
		1	7	3	8	2		
	7		8		3		1	
	4						9	
	3		1		5		7	
		9	4	2	1	8		
8			5		9			4
6								5

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

3	7	4	8	2	9	6	5	1
2	9	5	7	1	6	8	4	3
8	1	6	3	5	4	7	9	2
7	2	3	9	4	1	5	8	6
5	8	9	6	3	7	2	1	4
4	6	1	2	8	5	9	3	7
9	4	8	1	7	2	3	6	5
6	5	7	4	9	3	1	2	8
1	3	2	5	6	8	4	7	9

Send a KISS

Show some love! Send a note to somebody special at kiss@metronews.ca

My dearest Kranberry, you are my life and I don't know how I could ever live without you. We share so many interests, from dodge ball, snowboarding and martial arts to our love of great literature. I couldn't ask for a better mate! Enjoy your morning Sudoku puzzle my love, I hope you see this! Yours always, **K**

Happy Anniver. booboo! We have been through so much in the last 2 yrs. U r my love, my world, my air, my soul n my heart n every sec that we r apart I am not complete. U r the one I promise u n I hope to spend my whole life with u celebrating the 13 always. **LOVE YOU DOSHI**

To my Jbear. Hope you'll be able to see this. Never stop smiling and I hope to have many great memeries with you :) Your the best. **GILLIBEANS**

Today's horoscope

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

♈ Aries March 21-April 20 Do whatever it takes to stay positive, even though your sixth sense is telling you something is not right. Your instincts are not infallible and this time they are way off course.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21 A relationship that no longer brings you anything in the way of emotional or physical satisfaction is taking up far too much of your time and energy. So end it. Sometimes you have to be ruthless.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 Some people can be extraordinarily annoying, especially when they change their minds. When traveling or socializing make your own plans and not rely on friends or family.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 You may want to give up on something that is more difficult than you anticipated but if you do you will hate yourself. What's a bit of pain when the rewards are so great?

♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23 Is someone trying to avoid you? Maybe, but there is no need to get paranoid about it because the issue isn't about you. They just need some time to themselves so they can get their head around recent changes.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22 At some stage today you will begin to wonder if you have bitten off more than you can chew. It's quite possible you have but it's also too late to do anything about it.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 Don't worry if a long-term project seems to have stalled. The fact that it is long-term means you'll have plenty of time to come back to it later. Give yourself a short-term break.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 Mercury, planet of the mind, moves into your sign today, giving you a `clearer vision of the kind of person you want to be and the kind of goals you want to be aiming for.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 Someone you love is oddly unresponsive at the moment – whatever you say or do to spark their interest just doesn't seem to be working. Stop trying so hard and take the hint.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 In recent weeks you succeeded by being assertive, even aggressive, but now you must be more co-operative. Get together with like-minded people and create something extraordinary.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 No matter how much you may have done for someone in the past you cannot go on doing the same things forever. Make sure they know your assistance has a time limit on it.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20 Mercury moves into one of the more insightful areas of your chart today and you will begin to notice connections that were not so obvious before.

SALLY BROMPTON

Caption contest

BAS CZERWINSKI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WIN!

You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image to the right and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.

MISHA JAPARIDZE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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for men and women with Radio/TV potential are on at Canada's NIB Broadcast Training Centre
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TICO

The Friends of the Library, Trinity College
35th Annual Book Sale
October 22 – 26, 2010
Fri 22: 4 –9 pm (Admission $5)
Sat 23: 10 am – 8pm Sun 24: noon – 8pm
Mon 25: 10 am – 8pm Tues 26: 10 am – 8pm
(no admission charge Sat – Tues)
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10086 Hurontario St.
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BURLINGTON
1100 Walker's Line
Appleby Crossing
Burlington Mall
Mapleview Mall

CAMBRIDGE
499 Hespeler Rd.
Cambridge Center

COBOURG
Northumberland Mall

ETOBICOKE
Cloverdale Mall
Sherway Gardens
Woodbine Centre

GEORGETOWN
330 Guelph St.

LINDSAY
229 Kent St.
Whitney Town Centre

MAPLE
2810 Major Mackenzie Dr.

MARKHAM
7357 Woodbine Ave.
Market Village
Markville Shopping Centre
Pacific Mall

MILTON
377 Main St E.

MISSISSAUGA
6965 Davand Dr.
980 Eglinton Ave. E.
Dixie Value Mall
Erin Mills Town Centre
Heartland Power Centre
Sheridan Centre
Square One Shopping Centre
Square One Shopping Centre (kiosk)
Westgate SmartCentres

NEWMARKET
Upper Canada Mall

NORTH YORK
170 Rimrock Rd
Bayview Village
Centerpoint Mall
Crossroads Plaza
Empress Walk
Lawrence Square
North York Sheridan Mall
Sheppard Centre
Yorkgate Mall

OAKVILLE
Oakville Place
Winston Power Centre

ORANGEVILLE
114 Broadway Ave.

OSHAWA
Five Points Mall
Oshawa Centre

PICKERING
Pickering Town Centre

RICHMOND HILL
Hillcrest Mall
Richmond Heights Plaza
Time Square Shopping Centre

SCARBOROUGH
259 Morningside Ave.
Bridlewood Mall (kiosk)
Cedarbrae Mall (kiosk)
Eglinton Square
Malvern Town Centre
Scarborough Town Centre

SUDBURY
Brady Square
New Sudbury Centre
Southridge Mall

THORNHILL
Promenade Mall

TORONTO
2256 Bloor St.W.
209 Danforth Ave.
700 Gordon Baker Rd
85 Hanna Ave.
2171 Queen St. E
2323 Yonge St.
Chinatown Centre
College Park
Dufferin Mall
East York Town Centre
Eaton Centre
Eaton Centre II
Exchange Tower
Gerrard Square
Holt Renfrew Centre
Royal Bank Plaza
Scotia Plaza
Shops at Don Mills
Toronto Life Square
Yorkdale Shopping Centre (kiosks)

UXBRIDGE
307 Toronto St S

VAUGHAN
Vaughan Mills
Vaughan Mills (kiosk)

WHITBY
Whitby Mall
Whitby SmartCentres

WILLOWDALE
Fairview Mall
Fairview Mall (kiosk)

WOODBRIDGE
4080 Highway 7

Offer ends November 15, 2010. Available to residential customers in Ontario where technology permits. One-time activation fee ($29.95) extra. Modem rental (from $3.95/mo.) extra. Subject to change without notice and cannot be combined with any other offer. Taxes extra. Other conditions apply, including minimum system requirements. (1) Current as of October 7, 2010. Comparison between Bell Fibe Internet 25 (upload up to 7 Mbps) and Rogers Hi-Speed Ultimate (upload up to 2 Mbps). (2) Available to new customers and existing Bell Internet dial-up customers who subscribe to the Bell Bundle with Bell Internet and at least one other select service. Monthly rate from $31.95 (subject to change), less $5 credit for months 1 to 12 and $5 Bundle discount. Bundle discount may be terminated by Bell upon 30-day notice.

2010 FINAL CLEAROUT

THIS MONTH ONLY

0% FINANCING FOR UP TO 84 MONTHS ON SELECT 2010 MODELS**

SAVE UP TO $6,000⊙ IN CASH INCENTIVES ON SELECT OTHER MODELS

Forte | Forte Koup | Rondo

GREAT DEALS ON NEW 2011 MODELS

PAY UNTIL 2011♦

Sorento EX-V6 Luxury shown

2011 KIA SORENTO

LEASE IT FROM **$379**‹ Per month for 48 months

AT **3.9%** LEASE APR

With **$0** Down payment

HWY: 7.4L/100KM (38 MPG)
CITY: 10.6L/100KM (27 MPG)

HEATED FRONT SEATS

ELECTRONIC STABILITY CONTROL

Offer includes: Delivery & Destination $1,650 | Fees $134

ALL VEHICLES INCLUDE:

BLUETOOTH® CONNECTIVITY°

MP3/USB INPUT

Rio EX shown

2011 KIA RIO

0% Finance APR for **84 MONTHS**.. + $500 GAS CREDIT THIS MONTH ONLY▼

With payments starting as low as **$181**▲ Per month for 84 months

HWY: 5.8 L/100KM (49 MPG)
CITY: 7.1 L/100KM (40 MPG)

60/40 SPLIT REAR FOLDING SEATS

6-WAY DRIVER'S SEAT

Offer includes: Delivery & Destination $1,455 | Fees $34

5 year warranty

WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED

*5-YEAR/100,000 KM WORRY-FREE COMPREHENSIVE WARRANTY
*5 YEAR/100,000 KM POWERTRAIN WARRANTY
*5-YEAR/100,000 KM EXTRA CARE ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE,
*NO DEDUCTIBLE CHARGE

Soul 4u shown

2011 KIA SOUL

LEASE IT FROM **$239**‹ Per month for 48 months

AT **3.9%** LEASE APR with $1,630 down payment

HWY: 6.3L/100KM (45 MPG)
CITY: 7.7L/100KM (37 MPG)

HEATED FRONT SEATS

STEERING WHEEL AUDIO CONTROLS

Offer includes: Delivery & Destination $1,650 | Fees $34

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KIA

Kia's new Customer Friendly Pricing includes Delivery and Destination fees and all mandatory government levies.
Prices do not include dealer administration fees ($399 to $699), licensing, PPSA, or applicable taxes.

$500 Grad Rebate

CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED

0% purchase financing available on select 2010 Kia models for up to 84 months on approved credit (OAC). Limited time offer based on 2010 Kia Rio (RO745A). Cash price $18,514. 0% financing for 84 months. Cost of borrowing is $0. Delivery and destination fee ($1,455), other fees ($100 + $34), license, insurance, applicable taxes, PPSA, and registration are extra. Retailer may sell for less. See dealer for full details. 0% purchase financing available on all 2010 and 2011 Kia Rio and Rio 5 models for up to 84 months on approved credit (OAC). ⁺Cash back varies by model and trim. ♦ *No Payments Until 2011* (90 day payment deferral) applies to purchase financing offers on all new 2010 and 2011 Kia models. No interest will accrue during the first 60 days of the finance contract. After this period interest starts to accrue and the purchaser will repay principal and interest monthly over the term of the contract. ♦ Monthly lease payment for 2011 Sorento (SR54DB)/2011 Soul (SO550B) is $379/$229 for 48 months at 3.9% lease APR with a $0/$1,630 down payment. Total lease obligation is $18,197/$13,121 with the option to purchase at end of term for $10,401/$6,299. Lease has 20,000 km/year allowance (other packages available) and $0.10/km for excess. Delivery and destination fees of $1,650/$1,650, OMVIC fee, environmental fee and Air Tax (where applicable) included. ♦ Monthly payment for 2011 Rio (RO542B) starts at $181 for 84 months at 0% finance APR based on the Manufacturer Suggested Retail Price of $15,695. Delivery and Destination fees ($1,455), OMVIC fee, Environmental Fee and Air Tax (where applicable) included. All offers exclude licensing, registration, insurance, PPSA, applicable taxes and variable dealer administration fees (up to $699). ▼ $500 gas credit available on all 2010 and 2011 Kia Rio models on cash purchase, purchase financing, and lease offers while quantities last. $500 credit payable in form of a cheque or applied to reduce the selling price of the vehicle. Certain restrictions apply. See dealer for details. ◆Highway/city fuel consumption for 2011 Sorento 2.4L MT (SR54DB) is 7.4 L (38 MPG)/10.6 L (27 MPG); 2011 Rio (RO542B) is 5.8 L (49 MPG)/7.1 L (40 MPG); 2011 Soul (SO550B) is 6.3L (45 MPG)/7.7L (37 MPG). The actual fuel consumption of these vehicles may vary. These estimates are based on the Government of Canada's approved criteria and testing methods. Refer to the Government of Canada publication EnerGuide Fuel Consumption Guide. ^2011 Kia Sorento awarded the Top Safety Pick by the *Insurance Institute for Highway Safety*. The award is applicable on all 2011 Sorento models manufactured after March 2010. 2011 Kia Soul awarded the Top Safety Pick by the *Insurance Institute for Highway Safety*. Visit www.iihs.org for full details. °The Bluetooth® word mark and logo are registered trademarks and are owned by Bluetooth SIG, Inc. Some vehicles advertised may include optional accessories or after-sale equipment and may not be exactly as shown. Information in this advertisement is believed to be accurate at the time of print. Offers end November 1st, 2010. KIA is a trademark of Kia Motors Corporation.